Hafa Adai!

FEMA approves CNMI State Hazard Mitigation Plan. PAGE 3
KONFITMA 2024 full-scale exercise on Sept. 3 and 4. PAGE 4

$1

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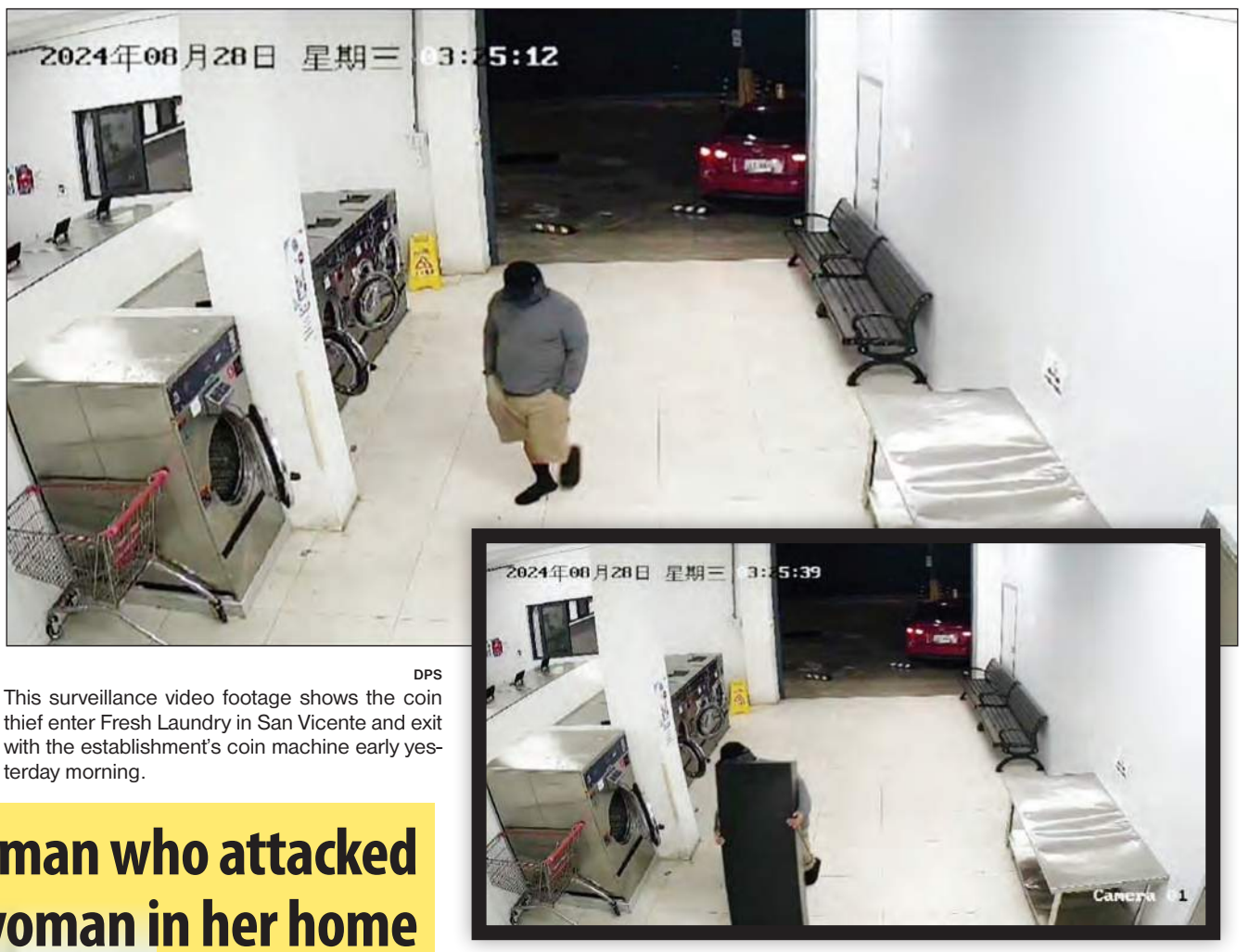
Coin thieves strike laundromats

By CHRYSTAL MARINO
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

Two laundromats on Saipan were the latest victims of theft incidents, one of which resulted in drug-related charges against the perpetrator, according to the Department of Public Safety.

Assistant chief of police and acting public information officer Simon T. Manacop said the first incident occurred at White Laundry on Dr. Torres Drive, Chalan Kanoa. The

See COIN on Page 4



DPS

This surveillance video footage shows the coin thief enter Fresh Laundry in San Vicente and exit with the establishment's coin machine early yesterday morning.

DPS

Chalan Kanoa's White Laundry surveillance camera captures the face of an individual identified as Vinny Untalan just before he attempted to steal $10.50 worth of coins.

$10K bail for man who attacked woman in her home

CHRYSTAL MARINO

Berman Jr. Padock Higgins is escorted back to the Department of Corrections following his bail hearing last Monday at the Superior Court in Susupe.

By CHRYSTAL MARINO
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

A man arrested for allegedly assaulting a woman inside her own home is facing charges for interfering with a domestic violence report, assault and battery with domestic violence, and, disturbing the peace.

A $10,000 bail was issued for 25-year-old Berman Jr. Padock Higgins when he appeared

See BAIL on Page 4

MARK RABAGO

The former Hyatt Regency Saipan property in Garapan.

Portopia names potential Hyatt buyer

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Hyatt Regency Saipan operator Saipan Portopia Hotel Corp. has identified a possible buyer of the Hyatt and has asked the Department of Public Lands

See HYATT on Page 4

US investor interested in IPI property

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The liquidation of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC remains pending with a U.S. investor coming into the picture by expressing interest in purchasing IPI's property.

Last Tuesday, IPI creditor Dotts Law Office objected to the bid procedure proposed by IPI in its motion to approve bid procedures for the sale of substantially all of the debtor's assets and related relief.

In its opposition motion,

See US on Page 4

INSIDE

BUSINESS
The Rota Small Business Development Center at the Northern Marianas College Rota Campus is proud to announce its completion of the "Social Media Mastery-Boost Your Business Online," led by Rota native Heaven Griffin.
PAGE 9

WORLD
Ukraine's daring ground offensive has taken the fight to Russia, but not nearly as much as its leaders would like because, they say, the United States won't let them.
PAGE 10

LIFE & STYLE
Oasis, the Britpop band known for timeless hits like "Wonderwall" and "Don't Look Back in Anger," is reuniting for a tour of the British Isles next summer, ending a 15-year hiatus and, presumably, the long-held feud between brothers Liam and Noel Gallagher.
PAGE 11

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PSS

Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence F. Camacho, acting Rota mayor Jim Michael Atalig, Sinapalo Elementary School principal Daisy Quitugua, Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior Senior High School principal Annette Calvo, Rota PSS OPT bus lead Larry Hocog, and contractor Jesus Dimaala celebrate the opening of the new Rota Office of Pupil Transportation facility in Songsong village.

Local

Rota inaugurates federally funded Office of Pupil Transportation facility

PSS

Education Commissioner Dr. Camacho and Rota school principals Annette Calvo and Daisy Quitugua inspect the new facility.

The new Rota Office of Pupil Transportation building was inaugurated last Friday, Aug. 23, to a proud public school community that witnessed federal dollars being invested in the island municipality's infrastructure development through the Public School System.

The new Rota facility is funded through the Public School System's share of the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act. The U.S. Department of Education has approved PSS' ARP Act Implementation Plan in August 2021, which would cover for four fiscal years.

The new OPT facility is located right next to the campus of Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior Senior High School.

The school district, led by Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence F. Camacho, Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior Senior High School principal Annette A. Calvo, and Sinapalo Elementary School principal Daisy H. Quitugua, along with acting Rota mayor and Municipal Council chair Jim Michael Atalig, joined Rota OPT bus leader Lorenzo "Larry" Hocog and his team in the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Leaders described the event as a "proud moment" for the Rota PSS community.

"To our Rota OPT leaders, Larry Hocog and his team, I congratulate you for this ribbon cutting and opening. It's on days like this when we celebrate initiatives through the opening or launching of a project or the completion of a project, that we consider critical for student learning and our community's success as a whole," Camacho said in his remarks.

Camacho credited the strong partnership between

See ROTA on Page 3

PSS

Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence F. Camacho confers with PSS FDM staff, architectural technicians Rommel Mostales and Gemalyn Ramundo, as he tours the interior of the new Rota OPT facility.

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FEMA approves CNMI State Hazard Mitigation Plan

The CNMI Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, under the Office of the Governor, announced that the State Hazard Mitigation Plan has been officially approved following thorough review and evaluation by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Effective July 28, 2024 through July 27, 2029, State Hazard Mitigation Plans must be updated and resubmitted for approval every five years.

An approved state hazard mitigation plan is a condition of receiving certain FEMA, non-emergency assistance and mitigation grants from the following programs:

- Public Assistance Categories C-G
- Fire Management Assistance Grants
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Post-Fire
- Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities
- Flood Mitigation Assistance
- Safeguarding Tomorrow Revolving Loan Fund
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation

The CNMI Hazard Mitigation Grant Program aims to work closely with all relevant stakeholders to ensure the successful implementation and maintenance of this plan throughout the five-year period.

Additionally, it will be treated as a living document. This significant development marks a major step forward in the CNMI's ongoing commitment to minimize the impact of disasters by reducing loss of life and property.

According to FEMA observations, "Every $1 invested in disaster mitigation saves $6."

The CNMI State Hazard Mitigation Plan may be accessed at the Office of Planning and Development website https://opd.gov.mp/. Questions and inquiries should be directed to the CNMI Hazard Mitigation Grant Program at cnmihmgp@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

ROTA

From page 2

PSS and the Rota leaders and the community, as a whole, including Rota Mayor Aubrey Hocog.

"We feel good because we know that this project could lead to many great things in the years to come as a result of this particular project that we have invested in. The completion of this is a great achievement of our Public School System. It is going to benefit all of our students because the work of our OPTS is very critical to our students' learning and success, which starts and ends in every bus ride they take from and to school from home."

He added, "Our children will never forget their time in the bus and the hardworking OPT personnel that continue to take care of them. It's a great deal for me as your commissioner of education because it reassures me that the support that we have for our students is attributed to initiatives like this."

Project engineer Jesus Dimaala of J&J Construction, said the newly completed OPT building "represents our dedication and teamwork."

"This was built and designed to ensure the safety of our students," Dimaala said.

'Finally home'

Rota OPT bus leader Lorenzo "Larry" Hocog said this is a milestone for both Rota schools and the community. This is the first time that a permanent facility was built to cater to the bus/transportation personnel and operation for Rota.

"It is my pleasure and an honor... to express gratitude to all those who made this event a reality. I started working as a bus driver 17 years ago, and throughout that time the OPT has been without a designated office for the Rota (operation) and its team to call our home," Hocog said.

"Today, with the support and collaboration of the PSS management team, we achieved a milestone. (This) ribbon cutting ceremony honors the new Rota OPT. We are finally home," the Rota bus leader said.

Hocog recognition for the "huge support and commitment" that led to the construction of the new facility to the following: Education Commissioner Dr. Lawrence Camacho, Education associate commissioner for Administrative Services Eric Magofna, Federal Programs Office, OPT director Shawn Nicholas, Facilities Development and Management team, school principals of RHI and Sinapalo Elementary School, Rota Mayor's Office, and the contractor."

The new Rota OPT includes an office, staff room, restroom, and storage room, and a garage/shelter area for repair of PSS buses and vans.

Rota OPT has three buses that service close to a hundred passengers, one van that provides service to about 15 passengers, and a special education minibus equipped with two wheelchairs.

RHI principal Annette Calvo said, "I feel very excited and very happy that there is now a permanent facility for them. They have been moving around for many years. As you heard it from our OPT bus leader, Larry Hocog, they can say they're finally home."

History

The site of the new Rota OPT facility was the former Rota PSS Liaison Office.

Shortly after the Education Act of 1988 was enacted, which led to the creation of an independent Public School System, the PSS Rota Liaison Office was created, among others, to provide additional support and services to the islands' public schools.

Then a Rota liaison office was created in 1990, which housed the offices for bus drivers and child nutrition program personnel. It was built next to the former Rota elementary school (the current RHI campus), where the newly inaugurated Office of Pupil Transportation facility is located.

Rota Elementary was offering a Head Start program up to eight grades.

The former Rota. High School, opened in 1983, was located in Songsong and offered grades nine to twelve.

Thirteen years ago, exactly on Aug. 25, 2011, the Board of Education approved the Middle School Consolidated Plan that merged both Rota High School and Rota Junior High School. The merger also renamed the merged schools as Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior Senior High School in honor of the late education chief and Rota's daughter. ***(PR)***

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 23, 2024 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

LEASE OF VEHICLES

ITB24-CHCC/ IMMUNIZATION-028

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS INVITATION TO BID FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.HEALTH]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting

Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting
Thursday, September 05, 2024 | 2:00 PM
Multipurpose Center • Beach Road, Susupe
Tel: 670-234-9661/2 • Fax: 670-234-9666
E-mail: ZoningBoard@cnmizoning.com

AGENDA

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of 09/05/24 Meeting Agenda
4. Adoption of 08/29/24
5. Communications
6. Public Comments *(not for items to be discussed in item B. Public Hearings)*

B. Public Hearings:
1. **Conditional Use Application #2024-2146 – DJ3D LLC** proposes to occupy & utilize an existing space measuring **39' 8" (L) x 45' 11" (W)** for "Gas Station, Light Repair (Automotive Air Conditioning and Refrigeration)". This use is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This site is located on **Lot 016 H 44** in the **Chalan Kanoa** village and is zoned as Village Commercial.
2. **Conditional Use Application #2024-2319 - Hong Ye Rental and Construction Ltd.** proposes to occupy and utilize a former quarry site consisting of approximately 45,324 square meters for "Mining". This use is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This site is located on **Lots 003 J 03 and 019 J 104** in Dandan village and is zoned as **Rural.**

C. Old Business
1. None

D. New Business
1. Government regulatory agencies team to address public nuisances

E. Report from Zoning Administrator
1. Operations (Permitting and Enforcement)
2. Office Updates

F. Report from Legal Counsel

G. Executive Session

H. Announcements

I. Adjournment

/s/Henry S. Hofschneider, Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Hong Ye Rental and Construction Ltd.
Conditional Use Application #2024-2319

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board Public Hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. **Hong Ye Rental and Construction Ltd.** proposes to occupy & utilize a former quarry site consisting of approximately 45,324 square meters for "Mining". This use is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. The site is located on **Lots 003 J 03 & 019 J 104** in Dandan village. This area is zoned as **Rural**.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: **September 05, 2024**
Time: **2:00 pm**
Place: **Governor Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center**

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 3pm, September 04, 2024. Please send written comments via e-mail to zoningboard@cnmizoning.com, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, at 5911 Chalan Pale Arnold, Chalan Laulau (former IT&E).

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Amended Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Henry S. Hofschneider, Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
DJ3D LLC
Conditional Use Application #2024-2146

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board Public Hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. **DJ3D LLC** proposes to occupy & utilize an existing space measuring **39' 8" (L) x 45' 11" (W)** for "Gas Station, Light Repair (Automotive Air Conditioning & Refrigeration)". This use is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This site is located on **Lot 016 H 44** in the **Chalan Kanoa** village and is zoned as Village Commercial.

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/s/ Henry S. Hofschneider, Chairman

KONFITMA 2024 full-scale exercise on Sept. 3 and 4

The CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, in coordination with the CNMI Public School System, Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, Department of Public Safety, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Customs and Biosecurity, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., Bureau of Environmental Coastal Quality, Guam National Guard 94th WMD-CST, and Wisconsin National Guard 54TH WMD-CST wish to inform the community of the upcoming KONFITMA 2024 exercise on Sept. 3 and 4 on Saipan.

This exercise will include a series of challenging scenarios. On Sept. 3, an active shooter scenario will occur at Kagman High School. This will begin lockdown procedures at 9:30am at KHS, Chacha Oceanview Middle School, Kagman Elementary School, and Kagman Head Start/Early Head Start Center.

The next situation is a hostage and active shooter scenario at the Kagman Juvenile Detention Center. Next, a mass care and decontamination scenario will occur at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. A hazmat and CBRNE scenario will happen at the Kagman Juvenile Detention Center. This will conclude the scenarios for day one of the exercise.

On Sept. 4, a chlorine and CBRNE incident will occur at a CUC storage unit. This will conclude the exercise scenarios for the exercise. ***(PR)***

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

BAIL

From page 1

before the Superior Court last Monday morning.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho ordered Higgins to appear before the court on Sept. 4, 2024 at 10am for a preliminary hearing and scheduled an arraignment on Sept. 16, 2024 at 9am. Public defense attorney Charlene Brown was appointed as defense with assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas representing the government.

During the hearing, prosecution explained the $10,000 bail was not only due to the injuries on the victim but also because Higgins had been on probation and had continually missed appearing in court for his past cases.

"The defendant is currently on probation. We have actually been trying to get him back into court for office review hearings, but he just does not know how to obey the court's orders in coming to court. There is an affidavit to revoke his probation in those criminal cases. In addition to that, it looks like there is another petition to revoke probation in relation to traffic violations. Back in February, bench warrants have been issued for this failure to appear, and so the defendant has a record of not coming to court when he is required to do so. Based on all this, the Commonwealth would ask the court to set bail at $10,000 cash," said Barcinas when addressing Camacho.

After the court session Higgins was remanded back to the Department of Corrections.

According to court documents, police received a report of disturbance last Aug. 24 at an apartment near Saint Jude Church.

Police officers were dispatched to the apartment and upon arrival, officers met with the victim, who appeared visibly shaken and displayed red scratches on her forehead near her left eye. The apartment was in disarray, with clothes scattered and a cabinet door on the ground. The victim requested medical attention and officers dispatched for medics to the scene.

The victim recounted that she had returned home from work around 9:48pm and encountered Higgins outside the back of her apartment. Despite ignoring him and retreating to her room, Higgins, who was reportedly intoxicated, followed her inside proceeding to bother her. The confrontation escalated as Higgins began throwing the victim's belongings out of the closet. When the victim attempted to call the police, Higgins allegedly assaulted her, punching her multiple times on the head and attempting to take her phone away. The assault continued until she lost consciousness, after which Higgins fled the scene with two other individuals.

Medics were summoned and provided immediate care to the victim, later transporting her to the hospital for further examination.

In a subsequent development, police were dispatched back to the apartment early Sunday morning at approximately 4:42am. Upon arrival, an officer encountered Higgins walking toward the building. The officer recognized Higgins from the initial description and confirmed his identity before placing him under arrest at approximately 4:46am from there Higgins was transported to Corrections.

COIN

From page 1

theft was reported on the morning of Aug. 24, 2024.

According to DPS, at approximately 10:48am, a male individual, later identified as Vinny Untalan, approached the laundrymat attendant asking to use the telephone. As the attendant stepped away from the counter to tend to the dryers, the suspect took the opportunity to steal a bag containing $10.50 in quarters.

Surveillance footage confirmed Untalan as the culprit, and he was located about 40 minutes later near the Subway restaurant in Chalan Piao. During his arrest, a search of his belongings revealed drug paraphernalia and a substance that tested presumptive positive for methamphetamine. Consequently, Untalan faces charges for both theft and illegal possession of a controlled substance.

In a separate and more substantial theft, Fresh Laundry in San Vicente fell victim to a coin machine heist in the early hours of Aug. 28, 2024. Manacop said that the theft was discovered by staff at 8:21am when they noticed the machine, valued at $1,000 and containing approximately $2,000 in coins and bills, was missing.

He shared that when officers reviewed the establishment's surveillance footage, it showed a red Kia sedan, bearing a CNMI license plate "ACE-666," arriving at the laundromat at around 3:18am. After initially surveying the area, the vehicle returned at 3:25am, and an individual was seen dragging the coin machine into the car before fleeing the scene.

"These cases remain under investigation," said Manacop. "DPS seeks the community's assistance in putting closure to this..."

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau at (670) 664-9042, DPS headquarters at (670) 664-9001 or the Crime Stoppers Hotline at (670) 234-7272 if they wish to remain anonymous. DPS also encourages the public to call the emergency line "911" to report a crime or emergency.

US

From page 1

the Dotts Law Office, represented by Michael W. Dotts, said it has been in contract with an investor through a client and that the investor has expressed an interest in acquiring the property.

However, because the investor is based in the United States, Dotts said it makes it difficult to conduct due diligence quickly.

"A proper procedure needs to be put in place so that other investors can obtain due diligence material. [IPI] is in possession and control of material needed for potential purchasers to consider the investment. These materials include blueprints, construction inspection reports, permits, constructions contracts, and estimates of what it will cost to complete the building. A 'bid package' should be assembled by [IPI]. The potential bidder from the United States has advised that bid packages are generally provided when properties are sold in bankruptcies. The time for investors to consider bidding should only start to run when they are provided with the bid package. Further, investors should either be provided time to have their own architects and engineers inspect the building, or a neutral architect or engineer should provide a report on the condition of the building. The preferred approach would be for [IPI] to fund hiring the expert using the DIP financing. Providing such a report with the bid package may increase the interest in the purchase of the property and result in a higher sales price," said Dotts.

Dotts added that to maximize the sale price of IPI's property, a "blind bidding procedure" would be more favorable to the creditors.

"The current proposal is that if an offer of $10,300,000 is made by Nov. 19, 2024, live bidding in $100,000 increments will be triggered at the court that same day. Otherwise, the stalking horse gets the property for $10,000,000. The Dotts Law Office proposes that 90 days after the bid package is made available to investors, sealed bids be submitted. This will encourage the stalking horse bidder to make a higher bid to fend off potential other bidders. If one or more bids are received, and if there is a substantial difference in price, the property can be sold to the highest bidder. However, if more than one bid is received, and if the prices are roughly equivalent, a bid committee can consider other factors, such as the ability of the bidders to actually complete construction of the project. A bid committee can include the creditors committee, the United States Trustee, and the Department of Public Lands. It is in the best interest of the CNMI and of all creditors who reside here that not only the highest price is obtained for the property, but that the purchaser actually completes the project," said Dotts.

Earlier this month, IPI filed a motion asking the court to approve bid procedures for sale of substantially all of IPI's assets.

According to the motion, IPI and a committee of IPI creditors have finalized the terms of a proposed sale of essentially all of IPI's assets to a "stalking horse purchaser."

A "stalking horse purchaser" essentially agrees to buy all of a debtor's assets subject to higher and better bids and subject to approval by a bankruptcy court.

The motion named Loi Lim Sit as the proposed "stalking horse purchaser," the same individual who agreed to loan IPI $1.4 million in debtor-in-possession financing.

The motion further states that the "stalking horse purchaser" has agreed upon a purchase price of $10 million for all of IPI's assets.

The assets to be acquired includes all tangible property, accounts, machinery, equipment, inventories, tenant improvements, goodwill, software and computer programs, hardware, intellectual property, company names, product names, trade names, prepaid expenses, and more.

HYATT

From page 1

to approve the reassignment of the hotel property lease to the interested buyer.

Earlier this month, Rep. Julie Marie Ogo (Ind-Rota) and Rep. Angelo Camacho (Ind-Saipan) wrote to DPL Secretary Teresita Santos asking for clarification regarding the status of the former Hyatt Regency Saipan hotel lease.

One of the clarifications sought by the lawmakers was whether interested buyers have reached out to DPL regarding the lease.

In a letter from Santos, she said DPL has not engaged in any negotiations with interested buyers; rather all interested buyers that have contacted DPL were referred to Portopia and all negotiations with those interested buyers have been handled by Portopia.

Last month, she added, Portopia asked DPL to approve an assignment of the lease to the assignee selected by Portopia, MB Capital LLC.

"On July 18, 2024, Portopia asked DPL to approve an assignment of the lease to Mr. David Hood and MB Capital LLC. DPL is now in communication with the assignee selected by Portopia. DPL has not yet confirmed whether the assignee meets the eligibility requirements and qualifying factors and has not yet approved the requested assignment," said Santos.

Hood of MB Capital LLC arrived on Saipan in 2013. He has business experience in the U.S. mainland and on Saipan including 35 years developing residential and commercial projects. DPL adds that Hood estimates that his largest company, Coldwell Solar, is valued at over $200 million.

Hood intends to self-fund the required renovation of the hotel, estimated at approximately $30 million.

He also proposes to staff hotel operations by hiring a general manager with local hotel experience and by rehiring former employees of the Hyatt.

MB Capital LLC's vision for the hotel is to maximize tourism as well as cater to local businesses and the local experience with the goal of reestablishing a connection with local markets and the community.

The former Hyatt Regency Saipan hotel property is encumbered by Lease Agreement LA22-001S dated Jan. 1, 2022 entered into between DPL and Saipan Portopia Hotel Corporation dba Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Pursuant to Article 3 of the lease, the term of the lease is for a period of 40 years, and an extension of up to 15 years may be granted with the approval of the Legislature pursuant to Article 4.

DPL learned that Portopia intends to stop operating all equipment and utilities and otherwise cease all activities on Aug. 31.

However, Portopia cannot unilaterally terminate the lease as of this date. This is because DPL will either need to declare a default of the lease under Articles 26 and 27 of the lease agreement once the premises has been abandoned for 90 days, or will need to execute a mutual cancellation agreement with Portopia to allow DPL to take possession of the Premises sooner.

DPL is not currently in possession of the leased premises and has no ability to lease or sublease the premises to other parties, as the leased premises are still under lease to Portopia.

DPL's current role is limited to reviewing requests from Portopia to approve proposed lease actions, including possible assignment of the lease.

Taiwan International Tourism Expo includes the Marianas

MVA

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion shares about tourism attractions in the Marianas with attendees of Taiwan International Tourism Expo 2024 on Aug. 16-19, 2024, in Taipei.

Taiwan's travel and consumer fair Taiwan International Tourism Expo 2024 included the Marianas over three days of exhibition in Taipei this month.

TITE gathers national and state tourism offices from all over the world, airlines, travel agents, tour operators, hotels, and other tourism stakeholders to promote their products to the Taiwanese market. The expo is organized by the Taipei Association of Travel Agents and Top Link International Exhibition Co., Ltd. This year's expo—held on Aug. 16-19—attracted 217,007 attendees.

"Taiwan International Tourism Expo in an opportunity to share about The Marianas with Taiwanese looking for overseas travel," said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "Most of them are FITs, motivated by the opportunity to visit relatives or friends, by curiosity, by the wish to experience the way of life in a different place, and to relax. We thank our partners at Skydive Saipan and CENTOURS for joining our booth to promote the Marianas"

The MVA conducted trivia games and other engaging activities at its booth, testing people's knowledge of Saipan, Tinian and Rota. Small giveaways were handed out to winners and participants to generate interest in and promote travel to the Marianas. The MVA promoted upcoming sporting events including the Hell of the Marianas, Rota Marathon and Saipan Marathon. Other annual events promoted included the upcoming Chief Taga Festival in Tinian and Bisita Luta Festival in Rota, both in October.

MVA's participation in TITE was covered by Taiwanese media, including TTN Media Group Corp., *Travel Rich Magazine*, and others. MVA also met with the Taiwan Tourism Administration, Taiwan Travel Quality Assurance Association, Travel Agent Association of Taiwan, Kaohsiung Association of Travel Agents, and the Tainan Association of Travel Agents. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2nd Floor Arrival Bldg.
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 |
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
Website: www.cnmiports.com

INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-017-24

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 27, 2024 (2:00 PM)

"AC PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE, SERVICE, AND REPAIRS FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT & PORT OF SAIPAN

THE BID PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) ACCOUNTING OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR, DEPARTURE BUILDING, FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING AUGUST 28, 2024. AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF $100.00 SHALL BE PAID TO CPA BEFORE A BIDDER MAY OBTAIN THE BID PACKAGE. PAYMENTS SHALL BE IN CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND TWO (2) COPIES OF THEIR BID IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED "AC PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE, SERVICE, & REPAIRS, FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT & PORT OF SAIPAN, (IFB-017-24)" TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON OR BEFORE 2:00 P.M., SEPTMEBER 27, 2024. BIDDERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATIONS ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS BID PRICE.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

LEO B. TUDELA DATE: AUGUST 28, 2024
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SAIPAN HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Office of the Mayor
Municipality of Saipan

NOTICE OF REGULAR SHEFA BOARD MEETING

In accordance with 1 CMC § 9901 et seq., as amended, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance (SHEFA) Board is hereby giving notice of its regular board meeting, to be held on August 29th, 2024, at 3:00 pm, Office of SHEFA conference room, 2nd Floor, CTC Building, Oleai, Beach Road, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes from June 13, 2024

II. Public Comment (s)

III. Committee Reports
a. Committee on Awards
b. Committee on Appeal/Deferments/Forbearance
c. Committee on Policy and Procedures
d. Committee on Program and Development
e. Committee of Fiscal, Legislative, and Community Affairs

IV. Administrator's Report

V. Chairman's Report

VI. Old Business
1. Compliance Officer Position
2. Status of Compliance/Loans/Repayment

VII. New Business
1. Fall 2024 Application Status
2. Budget Report
3. Upcoming 2024 Citizen Centric Report

VIII. Executive Session

IX. Miscellaneous Matters

X. Next Meeting

XI. Adjournment

/s/ Ms. Kaelani B. Demapan- Chairwoman, Board of SHEFA Directors

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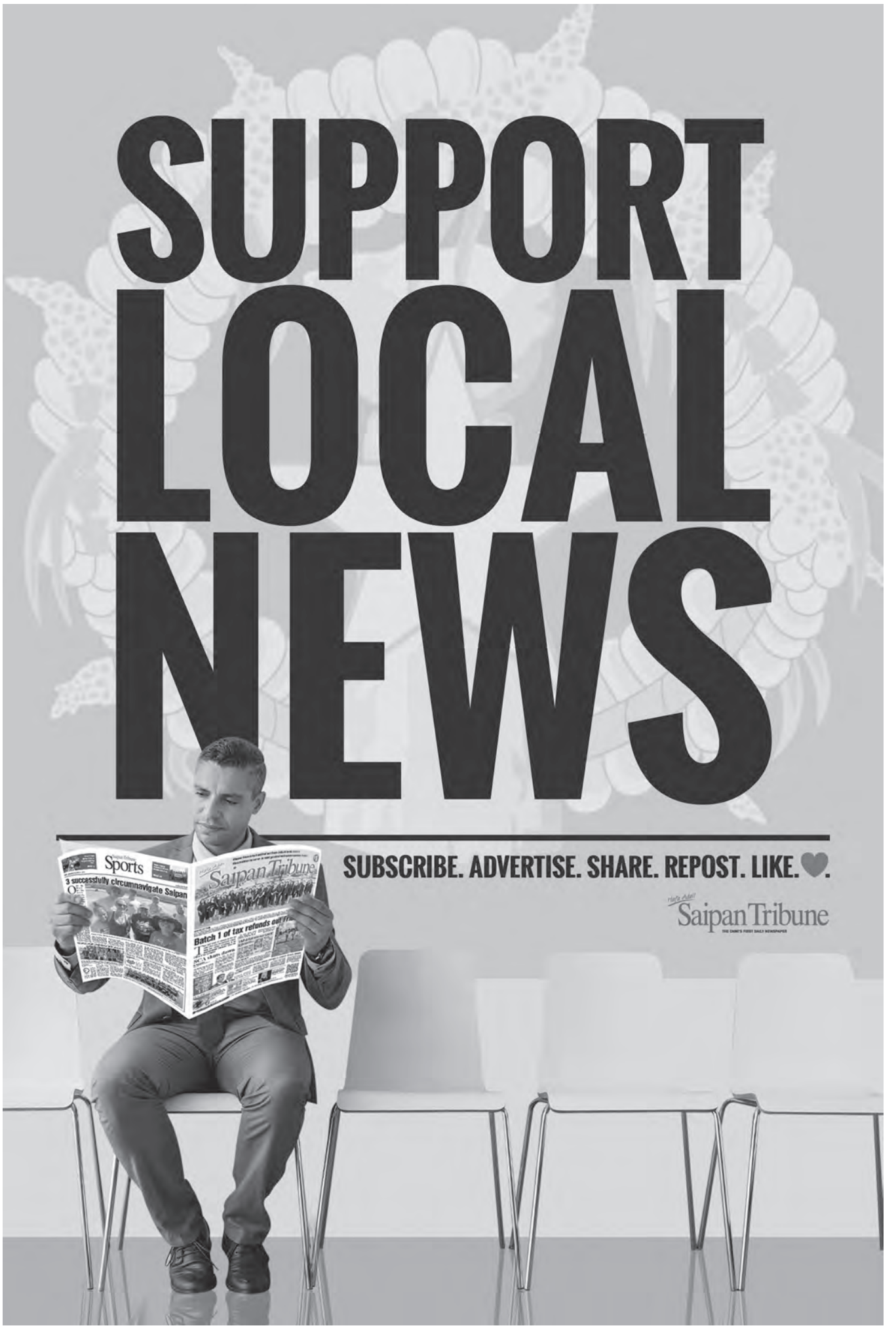
E-mail: saipanshefa@gmail.com • Website: www.saipanshefa.com



Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

November election could make—or break—reproductive freedom

"Our bodies are on the ballot!"

Alexis McGill Johnson, the president and chief executive of Planned Parenthood Action Fund, got it right when she declared that during her speech at the Democratic National Convention on Wednesday.

There's no question that the right to control your own body should be on the minds of every voter in the November election. Kamala Harris has made the aggressive defense of reproductive rights a main goal of her vice presidency, and Donald Trump's three anti-abortion appointments to the Supreme Court helped overturn Roe vs. Wade.

But abortion access has been making its way onto state election ballots ever since the Supreme Court took away the federal constitutional guarantee to that right in its 2022 ruling in Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization. And in every case, voters have supported ballot measures guaranteeing a right to an abortion while defeating those that would have constitutionally outlawed it, even in conservative-leaning states. Voters understand the danger of repressive state bans on abortion that intimidate healthcare providers into not performing emergency abortions until women are critically ill.

That's why it's impressive and exhilarating to see, with each passing election cycle, guarantees of reproductive freedom established from state to state. Legislators should never be able to dictate when and if a woman decides to have a baby.

This year there are 10 states with abortion rights measures on their ballots. And some of those measures are desperately needed. Nearly half the nation is now a patchwork of abortion bans. There are 14 states that ban abortion with limited exceptions. Eight other states ban the procedure somewhere between six weeks of gestation (when women usually don't even know they are pregnant) and 18 weeks.

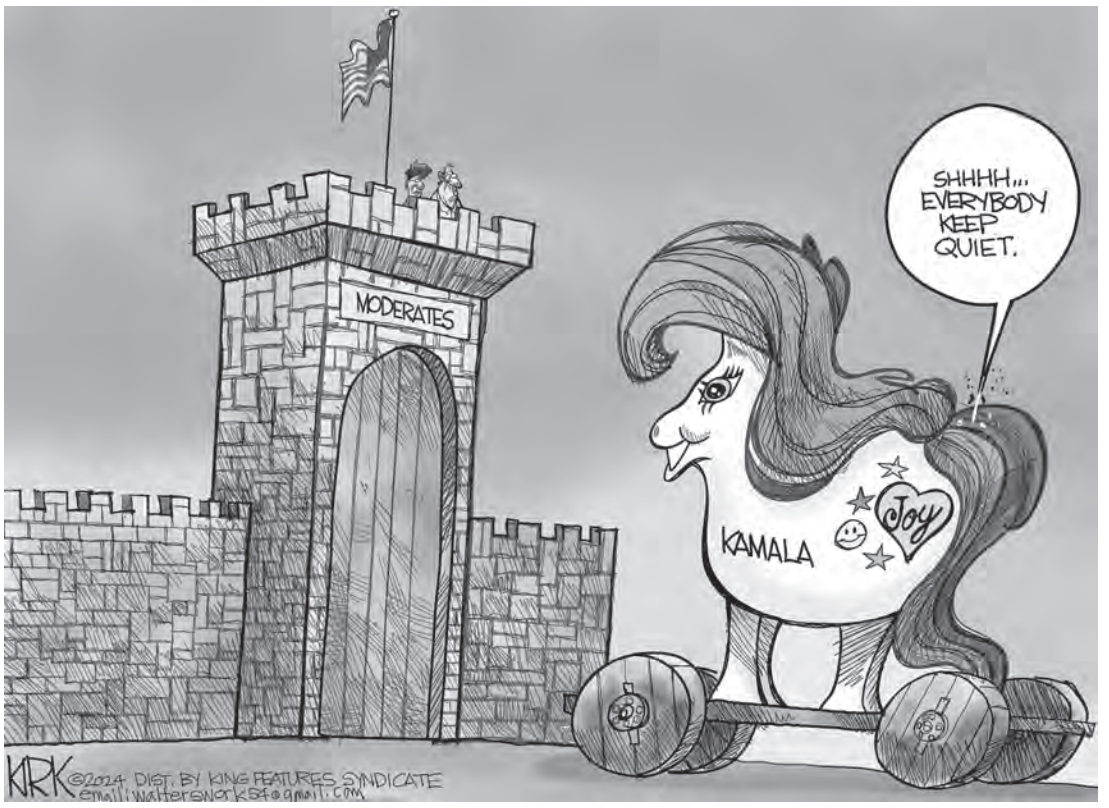
Measures on November ballots would restore access to abortion in Missouri, South Dakota and Florida — where there is none or little — to the point of viability, or about 24 weeks. In Arizona, where abortion is banned after 15 weeks, a measure would extend the right to the point of viability. In Nebraska, voters will choose between two opposing constitutional amendment proposals. One would protect the right to an abortion in the state until viability (it is now allowed up to 12 weeks of gestation), and the other would prohibit abortion after the first trimester.

Measures in Colorado, New York, Maryland, Montana and Nevada — where abortion is either allowed up to 24 weeks of viability or limits are not specified — would solidify the right to abortion in their state constitutions.

Previously, voters in California and Vermont, where abortion was already protected, added the right to their constitutions in 2022— as did those in the state of Michigan. That year Kansas and Kentucky voters turned back anti-abortion measures. Ohio passed a measure in 2023 including abortion rights in its state constitution.

At both state and national levels, support for abortion rights

See ELECTION on Page 7



Building bridges in a fractured nation: The future of America's political discourse

By JEFFREY ROTH
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jeffrey Roth is a colonel in the New York Army National Guard. He is also best-selling author of Fires, Floods, and Taxicabs. *The views expressed are his own.*

I grew up in a small town in Michigan, where my viewpoints were shaped by the people and context of the times—rooted in religion, community service, and a suspicion of government intervention. On Friday nights in high school, several friends and I would pile into a car and drive to a nearby town, to our favorite coffee shop, "Cup o' Joe." We'd sip creative coffees and nibble on confections while debating the politics of the day. Our discussions could be intense, but were often punctuated by laughter, as we seemed convinced we had all the answers.

Since, my life experiences have continued to shape my beliefs about government and public policy. As a teenager, I was introduced to the urban environment when I participated in a program offered by my high school that allowed me to visit inner-city Detroit one night each week to tutor youth in reading, math, and life skills. These early experiences exposed me to theharsh realities around me and taught me that policy issues affect real people. They solidified my understanding of how public policies clearly impact people's lives.

Still, many of my closest friends are those I grew up with, and we have differing viewpoints—sometimes completely so. And that's okay. Political alignment is not a requirement for mutual respect or shared experience.

Historically, some of our country's most significant public policies were forged through intense debate. The Constitutional Convention of 1787 was marked by fierce arguments and compromise. The resulting Constitution was a delicate balance of competing interests. Similarly, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 faced significant opposition, including a filibuster by Southern senators. It required persistent lobbying and negotiation to gain bipartisan support before it was finally signed into law. These examples remind us that democracy is not easy—it's a messy affair, especially in a country as diverse as the United States. It is through this messiness however that we achieve significant advancements for our country's principles and aspirational ideals.

The division in our political discourse is not new. However, something seems fundamentally amiss in today's political climate. There is a vitriol that leaves little room for compromise. According to the Pew Research Center, "What's unique about this moment...is that these divisions have collapsed onto a singular axis where we find no toehold for common cause or collective national identity." We've allowed our political disagreements to define us, relying on social media for connection, which acts as an echo chamber, amplifying our beliefs and further entrenching us. Unlike the past, where leaders engaged in direct debate and developed stronger arguments, today's discourse often occurs in isolation, reinforced by social media algorithms.

Today, our engagements are limited to a political discourse that brands anyone who disagrees as an enemy and unpatriotic. Each side trumpets the other as less patriotic, less intelligent, or immoral. For democracy to work, we must engage with one another—not in the hostile and unproductive politics of social media, online campaign snippets, and vehement attitudes that our side is the only side that's right. We must act neighborly and walk alongside those we might not want to. According to a Public Agenda and *USA Today* report, "Putting Political Animosity in Perspective," 72% of Americans believe we should put aside political differences and focus on common ground. That's part of it, but as we have seen since our founding, political messiness will always be with us. While divisions will always occur, they must not overshadow our ability to find common ground where we can move forward and forge a more perfect union.

As we mire ourselves in another presidential campaign season, surviving the barrage of sharply worded texts questioning our political contributions, perhaps the truest means for our society to progress is to engage. We must step outside the echo chamber of our lives and listen to those who differ from us. Organizations such as Living Room Conversations believe this is possible, bringing together people across the political spectrum to debate, discuss, and build understanding.

The question isn't whether politics will be messy. It will be. Or whether it will inflame our passions. It will. Or that we will have to compromise—because compromise is required of us. By engaging in the messiness of our process and understanding that we are all guided by common principles, we find that something remarkable can emerge. Just as those who came before us navigated intense debates and diverse viewpoints to produce foundational documents like the U.S. Constitution and the Civil Rights Act, we too can work through our differences to create a stronger, more unified country.

Perhaps within the crevices of our division lie the seedlings, straining for the sun, that if nurtured can grow into something as magnificent as our experiment with democracy. The challenges we face today are not so different from those of the past—they are simply amplified by modern communication tools and the speed of information exchange. However, the core solution remains the same: engagement, dialogue, and a willingness to listen and understand one another.

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If killing one species might save another, should we do it?

By F.D. FLAM
Bloomberg Opinion

F.D. Flam is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering science. She is host of the "Follow the Science" podcast.

It's routine practice for government officials to kill animals deemed invasive or destructive. For the most part, Americans accept this or look the other way—especially if the "pests" are insects, rodents or garden-munching deer. That's changed now that the Fish and Wildlife Service plans to shoot thousands of owls in California, Oregon and Washington.

The species on the hit list is the barred owl — a creature whose adaptability has enabled it to spread into new areas. This expansion is driving the increasingly rare spotted owl to extinction.

This isn't just natural selection in action. All over the world, human activity has changed landscapes so fast that the diversity of plants and animals is collapsing—with a few hardy species taking over. In an attempt to stop this, authorities around the world are protecting coral reefs by killing starfish, protecting salmon by killing sea lions, and protecting red squirrels by killing grey ones.

But the case of the spotted owl is unusual because, to the untrained eye, it almost looks the same as a barred owl. The two species are so closely related, they sometimes mate and produce hybrid offspring. That's forced a reconsideration of big ethical questions: Is it moral to kill in the name of ecological balance and diversity? And if it can be, how do we decide which species are acceptable to target?

Field experiments show that shooting barred owls can stave off the decline of the spotted owl, but there's no end point. The current plan under the Fish and Wildlife Service would go on for 30 years and kill up to half a million owls — but it's understood that the shooting would have to go on forever to save the spotted owl.

Stephen Pruett-Jones, an ecologist at the University of Chicago, said that while barred owls can interbreed with spotted owls, they are very different animals with different calls and different diets. Spotted owls only eat certain small mammals, while barred owls can eat mammals, fish, amphibians, birds, insects and slugs. Spotted owls are only adapted to live in old-growth forests; barred owls live in a much wider range of environments.

In the 1980s and 1990s, environmentalists used the spotted owl's status under the Endangered Species Act to argue that a fraction of the old-growth forest in the Pacific Northwest should be protected from logging. They succeeded, but the spotted owls continued to decline—losing 80% of their numbers in the last 30 years.

Scientists and bird watchers witnessed the bigger, more aggressive barred owl move in and outcompete spotted owls for food and nesting sites. And it's not just the spotted owl that's at risk—the barred owl's proliferation might be hurting the local screech owl and pygmy owl populations. Some scientists worry that human activity has both depleted the spotted owl populations and accelerated the barred owl's expansion.

Kent Livezey, a retired wildlife biologist for the Fish and Wildlife Service has argued that human activity has affected owl ranges for millennia, starting when Native Americans used fire to clear land in the middle of the continent. As European colonists took over, suppressing fires and building farms, towns and parks, they helped create a corridor of trees through which barred owls slowly expanded westward along with many other birds.

Livezey said he's not opposed to killing a few barred owls in places where spotted owls can be saved. His concern is that the government plan includes culling in areas surrounded by thousands of barred owls, so more will move in replacing any that are shot.

He worries the killing is being motivated by another reason—under the Endangered Species Act, the spotted owl is the only legal leverage preventing logging from destroying what's left of the old-growth forests. It would be far better to create new laws to protect the forests rather than kill thousands of owls.

The one place where he thinks there's hope for the spotted owl is in the Sierra Nevada mountains. In other places, he said, the shooting would be a waste of money and of avian life.

A recent New York Times op-ed piece also argues against the killing, citing "genomic evidence that the barred owl has in fact resided in the Pacific Northwest for thousands of years." But that was at odds with what all the scientists told me, and the paper cited didn't appear to make that case, so I called one of the authors, biodiversity scientist John Dumbacher.

He said the Times piece misrepresents his work, which, he said, shows there's more genetic variation among barred owl populations than thought. "The data are clear at this point: The barred owl is an existential threat to the spotted owl," he said. The spotted owl is "disappearing at a rate that's blowing away the scientists." If humans hadn't drastically depleted their numbers by destroying much of the old-growth forest they depend on to survive, maybe they'd have stood up better to the barred owls.

"The science is all very clear about what's going on," Dumbacher said, "but the science doesn't tell you what to do about it." For that we need ethical arguments. The public should have a say as well.

He said he's given public lectures on this issue and people have mixed views. He understands people's opposition to killing charismatic creatures. He's not opposed to taking either road, but either choice will have consequences. If we do nothing, he said, it's all going to be dandelions and raccoons and black rats—and a few other species that can adapt to human-degraded environments.

There may be no good path forward. What may be more important is proceeding wisely—having an end goal, learning from mistakes, and doing what we can to avoid coming to this juncture in the future.

Tim Walz reminds us of Social Security's true purpose

By KATHRYN ANNE EDWARDS
Bloomberg Opinion

Kathryn Anne Edwards is a labor economist and independent policy consultant.

In a speech at the Democratic National Convention accepting the party's nomination as vice president, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz talked about his life before politics. He mentioned how is father died of lung cancer. "Thank God for Social Security Survivor benefits," Walz said. In fact, Walz has often talked about how the program helped stabilize his family in those days, allowing them to "live with dignity" rather than poverty. He talked about it when he ran for governor in 2018 and on the campaign trail with current Vice President Kamala Harris.

Walz is the exact kind of politician Social Security needs at the moment. Although Social Security, which along with Medicare is one of the country's two largest entitlement programs, isn't an issue in the 2024 elections, it's likely to become regardless as lawmakers turn their attention from the race for the White House back to debt and deficits.

The Heritage Foundation, a conservative group spearheading an extensive plan to reshape the U.S. government called Project 2025, has long proposed making Social Security a voluntary savings program that workers can opt out of, in effect privatizing the program. Critics such as Heritage claim the program has long been abad deal, arguing that workers would be better off in the long run investing the 6.2% of their earnings that go into Social Security on their own.

Walz's story, however, makes clear that such reasoning is faulty. Social Security isn't a retirement program, but an insurance program, and the return is protection, not dollars.

To be fair, most peoples' understanding of Social Security isn't wrong as much as it's incomplete. When workers contribute 6.2% of earnings up to the tax cap, they are earning Social Security coverage for themselves when they retire. From this lens, Social Security is akin to forced savings with guaranteed returns. Yet, a quarter of Social Security beneficiaries are not retirees. (1) That 6.2% tax contribution also earns coverage of their spouse and dependent children, and not just in the case of their retirement but also their disability or death.

Walz himself didn't receive Social Security, as he was 19 when his father died, but his mother and younger brother and mother did. There are 5.8 million survivors insurance beneficiaries like them today. His description of Social Security being the backstop between his family and poverty is supported by data. The Census Bureau estimates that the income from Social Security lifts 1.3 million children and 7.5 million non-elderly adults out of poverty. For comparison, that's similar to the 1.4 million children kept out of poverty by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as food stamps.

It's not surprising that Americans don't consider the non-retiree part of Social Security's coverage. Few expect to die or become disabled before the retire. The last two decades have unfortunately shown just how widespread that risk can be with two mass mortality events: The rising wave of opioid-related overdoses and the million plus Americans who died from COVID-19. The latter was also a mass disability event, though the estimate of the number affected is less clear.

There are also the "shadow" child beneficiaries of Social Security. About 10% of American children live with a grandparent, and 3%, or 2.3 million, were being raised by a grandparent as of 2021, according to the Labor Department. These children can only qualify to receive Social Security benefits as dependents if they are officially adopted by their grandparents. Otherwise, they simply live in a household in which Social Security is a large source of income.

Tim Walz is pretty old to be a posterchild for Social Security Survivor Benefits, but his story speaks for the millions of parents and their children who have found themselves in the unfortunate situation of having to draw on the program but fortunate that it's there when needed. That's a protection more Americans ought to understand. And although we may be a decade or so away from when the Social Security trust fund used to cover benefits is estimated to fall short of tax revenues, whatever Americans fail to understand they'll fail to defend.

ELECTION

From page 6

is only getting more forceful and unapologetic. As well it should. A Pew Research Center poll says most adults—63%—in the U.S. believe abortion should be legal in all or most cases. That number goes up to 86% for religiously unaffiliated Americans. Even 59% of Catholics think it should be legal.

It's also encouraging that reproductive rights figured so prominently at the Democratic National Convention. In front of millions of Americans, women told their stories of struggling to get an abortion when they desperately needed one. Oprah Winfrey reminded the audience that if you do not have control over how and when you have children, "there is no American dream."

And Harris talked of hearing women's stories of miscarrying in parking lots, developing sepsis and losing the ability to have children again because restrictions on when emergency abortions are permitted make doctors "afraid they may go to jail for caring for their patients." She noted that "America cannot truly be prosperous unless Americans are fully able to make their own decisions about their own lives." We agree.

Reproductive freedom is about having the power to make choices. And that is something that we must vigilantly work for and protect at all levels of government.

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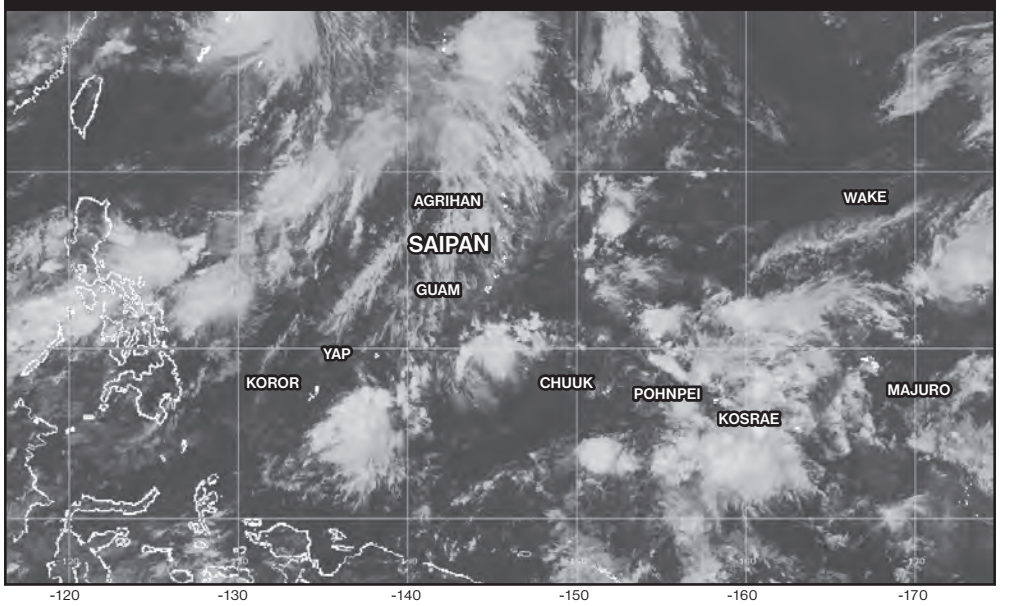
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Isolated showers. Mostly sunny.	A 30 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny.	A 30 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny.	A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy.	A chance of showers. Partly sunny.
87º 79º	86º 79º	86º 79º	85º 79º	86º 79º

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:02 AM WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2024

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite imagery shows the expected scattered showers are filling in for the Marianas. Currently, these showers are small cells speckled over the region, this is anticipated to change over the course of the days. Lightning has not yet been detected from these showers. These showers are expected persist today and tonight for all of the Marianas and begin to wane for Tinian and Saipan tomorrow. Then wane for Rota and Guam tomorrow night. Seas remain around 2 to 4 feet. Winds are expected to increase over the next few days to light to moderate winds.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: https://www.weather.gov/gum/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	90° / 80°
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	90° / 79°
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	87° / 80°
Chuuk	Cloudy	89° / 80°
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	88° / 77°
Kosrae	Light Rain Shower	84° / 78°
Majuro	Cloudy	87° / 81°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Friday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Saturday	6:04 AM	6:29 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:29 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:28 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	1:30 AM	3:07 PM	-
Friday	2:28 AM	3:59 PM	-
Saturday	3:24 AM	4:45 PM	-
Sunday	4:18 AM	5:27 PM	-
Monday	5:09 AM	6:04 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	61° / 50°
Beijing	Fair	88° / 65°
Hong Kong	Fair	93° / 83°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 76°
London	Sunny	96° / 75°
Los Angeles	Sunny	83° / 68°
Manila	Light Rain Shower	85° / 77°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	59° / 43°
Miami	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
New York	Clear	83° / 68°
Osaka	Cloudy	94° / 78°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	82° / 63°
Busan	Mostly Cloudy	86° / 75°
Rome	Sunny	97° / 72°
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	84° / 68°
San Francisco	Sunny	71° / 55°
Seoul	Sunny	90° / 71°
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	88° / 79°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	94° / 72°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:20 AM	High Tide	1.76
10:25 AM	Low Tide	-0.01
6:11 PM	High Tide	1.82
11:18 PM	Low Tide	1.39

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2024

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA076	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily

SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)

UA824	11:50AM	2:25PM	1, 3, 5

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily
UA193	6:50PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

7C3403/2305	4:45AM	10:20PM	Daily
UA076/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam
UA076/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX77	4:05AM	7:00AM	1, 5

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

UA825	5:30PM	9:55PM	2, 4, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:25PM	4:20AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
UA184	11:50PM	5:45AM+1	2, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA192/174	10:25PM	8:50AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA184/174	10:25PM	8:50AM +1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
7C2306/3406	11:10PM	3:10PM+1	Daily
UA184/174	11:50PM	8:50AM +1	2, 5 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
7C3472	11:05AM	4:40PM	Daily (July 17 to Aug 17)
TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily
7C3404	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

HX76	7:25PM	2:35AM+1	4, 7

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 2, 2024

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	08:30	09:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	10:30	11:00	Daily
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	11:30	12:00	Saturday & Sunday
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:30	14:00	Monday To Friday
3104	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	11:30	12:00	Monday To Friday

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	12:30	13:00	Monday To Friday

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1201	SAIPAN	TINIAN	7:30	7:45	Daily
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1206	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1207	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2101	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2106	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2107	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily

LOCAL

USCGC *Frederick Hatch* wraps up Operation Rematau in Blue Pacific

USCGC
The crew of the USCGC *Frederick Hatch* (WPC 1143) conduct training with Station Apra Harbor in Apra Harbor on Aug. 8, 2024. The towing exercise with a Station Apra Harbor 45-foot Response Boat-Medium crew enhanced inter-unit coordination and operational proficiency.

SANTA RITA, Guam—The crew of the USCGC *Frederick Hatch* (WPC 1143) successfully concluded a productive patrol period from July 22 to Aug. 12, 2024, under the ongoing Operation Rematau, showcasing the U.S. Coast Guard's dedication to maritime safety, security, and stewardship in the Blue Pacific.

This patrol saw the crew cover over 1,252 nautical miles and engage in various operations, from maritime law enforcement boardings to community outreach and crucial training.

During this patrol, the *Frederick Hatch* team boarded two foreign-flagged fishing vessels in the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission operational area on the high seas, with no violations reported, ensuring the safety and security of the region's maritime activities.

"Our mission underscores the vital role we play in ensuring safe and lawful maritime activities in the Pacific," said Lt. Niki Kirchner-Hope, commanding officer of USCGC *Frederick Hatch*. "The successful execution of these boardings reflects our crew's high level of professionalism and dedication to the mission."

The cutter's crew participated in significant community relations events in Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands, including the March-On for the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Tinian. They also engaged in a local festival and were invited back for more in October, continuing to foster strong relationships with the local community and enhancing regional presence.

The *Frederick Hatch* crew, which experienced a substantial turnover this transfer season, with over 55 percent of members swapping out, benefited from extensive training during the patrol. They completed multiple training programs, including Marine Emergency Drills, Damage Control Training Team exercises, and small boat training.

"Training and mentoring our new crew members are key to our success and long-term effectiveness," said Petty Officer 1st Class Joseph Mendiola of the engineering team. "Routinely operating thousands of miles from homeport makes this training even more crucial. It's what makes sure our team is ready to handle anything that comes our way with confidence and skill, really boosting our mission readiness and impact out here in the Pacific."

Key accomplishments of the patrol include completing anchor training in Agat Bay, successful law enforcement and tactical training, and vital inter-agency collaborations. The cutter crew participated in a towing exercise with a Station Apra Harbor 45-foot Response Boat-Medium crew, enhancing inter-unit coordination and operational proficiency.

The patrol also saw personnel achievements, including one crewmember advancing to E-5 and several others achieving new qualifications. These underscore the team's commitment to ongoing professional development and mission readiness. They will now focus on post-patrol debriefings to refine communication and operational procedures, further enhancing their capabilities for future missions.

"On behalf of the entire team aboard Hatch, I want to extend our gratitude to the personnel from USCGC *Myrtle Hazard*, Station Apra Harbor, the Forces Micronesia Sector Guam Sector Boarding Team, and the Base Guam MAT/WAT. Your support throughout this patrol, from filling critical TDY assignments to assisting with complex training and law enforcement evolutions, has been invaluable in ensuring Hatch's success and the well-being and readiness of our crew. Thank you for being so dedicated to others and for standing the watch with us in this demanding environment," said Lt. Kirchner-Hope

About USCGC *Frederick Hatch*

The *Frederick Hatch* is the 43rd 154-foot Sentinel-class fast response cutter named for a surfman and lighthouse keeper who was a two-time Gold Life Saving Medal recipient. They are also the 2023 Hopley Yeaton Award winners for small cutter excellence.

About US Coast Guard Forces Micronesia/ Sector Guam

U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia/Sector Guam protects maritime interests, ensures security, and fosters peace and prosperity across the Blue Pacific. Their operations span search and rescue, law enforcement, environmental protection, and national defense. They maintain close ties with local, regional, and international partners to uphold maritime safety and security standards.

About Operation Rematau

Operation Rematau is how U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia supports Operation Blue Pacific. These efforts include the patrols of the Fast Response Cutters. This initiative supports U.S. national security objectives by fostering maritime good governance and security within the Pacific region. "Rematau" translates to "people of the deep sea," echoing the Pacific community's deep ties and shared goals.

For further details on the rescue operation or the ongoing efforts of U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia, contact Chief Warrant Officer Sara Muir, public affairs officer, at sara.g.muir@uscg.mil or uscgforcesmicronesia@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Business

SBDC hosts Rota Social Media Mastery training

SBDC
Participants gather for a group photo with presenter, Heaven Griffin, sixth from left, and Rota SBDC director, Charlene Ogo, leftmost.

ROTA—The Rota Small Business Development Center at the Northern Marianas College Rota Campus is proud to announce its completion of the "Social Media Mastery-Boost Your Business Online," led by Rota native Heaven Griffin.

The training event, held last Aug. 24, saw an enthusiastic turnout from local entrepreneurs, marketers, and community members eager to learn and elevate their businesses through effective social media strategies.

The training was marked by active participation, with attendees keen to absorb Griffin's valuable insights on harnessing the power of social media to boost their businesses. Participants praised the session for its practical approach and the clear, actionable strategies that were shared.

Reflecting on the event, Griffin said, "I'm super grateful to those who attended. I hope the participants walked away with knowledge on how to leverage social media as part of their marketing strategy for their businesses. With the power of AI and social media, there are so many opportunities to grow their business, as well as their connection to their community and customers."

Participants expressed their appreciation for the training, with Angie Anna Hocog-Muña stating, "Heaven's experience and passion for social media was evident through every aspect of the session. The insights I've gained are invaluable, and I'm eager to apply these skills to enhance the social media presence that our association could greatly benefit from."

Charlene M. Ogo, director of Rota SBDC, also shared her thoughts on the event's success: "This training was more than just a workshop; it was a celebration of Rota's spirit of collaboration and growth. Heaven's return to her roots to support our local businesses exemplifies the community-driven approach we value at Rota SBDC. We are grateful for her dedication and proud of the impact this training will have on our local economy."

The Rota SBDC remains committed to supporting local businesses with resources and training to foster growth and sustainability. The success of this training is a testament to the power of community and the importance of investing in skills that drive business success.

For those who missed the event, stay tuned for future opportunities to learn and grow with the Rota SBDC.

For more information, contact Rota SBDC director/business advisor Charlene M. Ogo at (670)783-5959 or email charlene.manglona@marianas.edu. Follow us on social media: Instagram @cnmisbdc and Facebook at CNMI Small Business Development Center Network. ***(PR)***

Chamber's Strategic Leadership & Effective Management workshop this Friday

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce's 3rd Quarter Professional Development Training on "Strategic Leadership & Effective Management" will be held this Friday, Aug. 30, at V-217 on the NMC Campus. The training will be offered in two sessions—the first session will begin at 8:30am and end 12:30pm and the second will be from 1pm to 5pm.

DeLeon Guerrero

The training will be led by Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero, president of the Northern Marianas College. The following are key points of the training session:

- Actionable insights for effective team management
- Practical strategies for:
  - Effective Communication
  - Conflict Resolution
  - Strategic Leadership
  - Enhancement of Managerial Skills
  - Immediate Impact on Professional Roles

As a friendly reminder, our training fees are as follows: Chamber member $50 and future Chamber member is $40. Participants are asked to bring their own computer or mobile device to enhance the training experience.

For more information or to secure your seat, reach out to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce at (670) 234-7150 or email contactus@saipanchamber.org Register now to reserve your spot!

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower our enterprises as a resource, advocate, and connector for Saipan's private sector. Its vision is to create an island where businesses, families, and communities succeed as one. For more information or to learn how to become a Chamber member, visit online at www.saipanchamber.com, call (670) 234-7150, or visit the 2nd Floor of the Marianas Business Plaza (Suite 201-A). ***(PR)***

Nation

Harris' election would defy history

NEW YORK (AP)—As Vice President Kamala Harris begins her fall campaign for the White House, she can look to history and hope for better luck than others in her position who have tried the same.

Since 1836, only one sitting vice president, George H.W. Bush in 1988, has been elected to the White House. Among those who tried and failed were Richard Nixon in 1960, Hubert Humphrey in 1968 and Al Gore in 2000. All three lost in narrow elections shaped by issues ranging from war and scandal to crime and the subtleties of televised debates. But two other factors proved crucial for each vice president: whether the incumbent president was well-liked and whether the president and vice president enjoyed a productive relationship.

Harris

"You really do want those elements to come together," says Julian Zelizer, a professor of history and public affairs at Princeton University. "If the person the vice president is working for is popular, that means people like what he's doing and you can gain from that. And you need to have the two principals working together."

In 1988, Bush easily defeated Democrat Michael Dukakis, the Massachusetts governor whom Republicans labeled as ineffectual and out of touch. Bush was otherwise helped by a solid economy, the easing of Cold War tensions and some rare luck for a vice president. President Ronald Reagan's approval ratings rose through much of the year after falling sharply in the wake of the 1986-87 Iran-Contra scandal, and Reagan and Bush worked well together during the campaign. Reagan openly backed his vice president, who had run against him in the 1980 primaries. He praised Bush at the Republican convention as an engaged and invaluable partner, appeared with him at a California rally and spoke at gatherings in Michigan, New Jersey and Missouri.

"Reagan was not a man to hold grudges," said historian-journalist Jonathan Darman. "And Bush did a good job of navigating the complexity of their relationship while he was vice president."

When Gore ran in 2000, his advantages were similar to those enjoyed by George H.W. Bush. The economy was strong, the country was at peace and the president, Bill Clinton, had high approval ratings despite his recent impeachment over his affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

Gore had worked closely with Clinton over the previous eight years, but the scandal led to enduring tensions between them. He minimized the president's presence during the campaign and pronounced himself "my own man" during his acceptance speech at the Democratic National Convention. Commentators would cite his distance from Clinton as a setback in a historically close race, decided by a margin of fewer than 1,000 votes in Florida.

"Instead of finding a way to embrace the accomplishments of the Clinton administration, Gore ran away from Clinton as fast as his legs could carry him," Slate's Jacob Weisberg wrote soon after the election.

Like Gore, Nixon could not—or would not—capitalize on the incumbent Dwight Eisenhower's popularity. In 1960, Eisenhower was still so admired as he neared the end of his second term that Nixon's opponent, Democrat John F. Kennedy, feared the president's active support would prove critical. But Eisenhower and Nixon had a complicated relationship dating back to when Eisenhower ran eight years earlier. He had chosen Nixon as his running mate, but nearly dropped him because of the so-called Checkers scandal, in which Nixon was accused of misusing funds donated by political backers.

» Just 1 sitting VP has been elected president since 1836

Nixon was more than 20 years younger than Eisenhower, the victorious World War II commander who often looked upon his vice president as a junior officer, according to Nixon biographer John A. Farrell. At the end of a summer press conference in 1960, Eisenhower was asked if he could cite Nixon's influence on any important decision. He answered, "If you give me a week, I might think of one." Meanwhile, Nixon was reluctant to have Eisenhower campaign, out of a desire to forge his own path, and, allegedly, out of concern for the 70-year-old president.

"Nixon very much wanted to be his own man," says Farrell, whose prize-winning "Richard Nixon" was published in 2017. "He always said he was worried about Eisenhower's health, but there are also anecdotes that Eisenhower was chafing at the bit. Both could be true."

Nixon's luck changed when he ran eight years later against Lyndon B. Johnson's vice president. No vice president was more entrapped by his predecessor than Hubert Humphrey, whose candidacy was only possible because Johnson decided not to seek reelection.

Humphrey faced challenges within the party from the anti-war candidates Eugene McCarthy and Robert F. Kennedy (who was assassinated in June 1968 after winning the California primary) and was tied to Johnson's divisive, hawkish stance.

Humphrey privately advocated a less hardline approach to the war, but Johnson intimidated him into silence and he trailed Nixon badly in many polls. Only in the fall did Humphrey diverge and call for a bombing halt with North Vietnam. The vice president rallied, but ended up losing the popular vote by less than a percentage point while falling short more decisively in the Electoral College.

"Johnson did catastrophic damage to Humphrey, in my opinion," says Boston Globe columnist Michael Cohen, author of a book on the 1968 election, "American Carnage."

Like Johnson, President Joe Biden declared he wouldn't seek a new term less than a year before Election Day, though he waited much longer in the cycle than Johnson did. Unlike Humphrey, Harris quickly consolidated Democratic support and accepted her party's nomination at an uplifting convention that concluded without significant damage from protests, unlike the violence-marred 1968 event in the same city, Chicago.

In an AP-NORC survey conducted in July, after Biden dropped out of the race, about 4 in 10 Americans approved of his performance as president, roughly where his approval numbers have stood since the summer of 2021 and comparable to those of the Republican nominee, Donald Trump. Eisenhower, Reagan and Clinton frequently held higher approval ratings than Biden, although all served in less polarized eras.

World

Ukraine's Russia offensive is risky

WASHINGTON (AP)—Ukraine's daring ground offensive has taken the fight to Russia, but not nearly as much as its leaders would like because, they say, the United States won't let them.

AP
Ukrainian soldiers guard the sky with a machine-gun on a city road during one of Russian most massive missile and drone attack against Ukraine's energy objects in Kyiv, Ukraine, Monday, Aug. 26, 2024.

The U.S. restricts the use of long-range ballistic missiles it provides to Ukraine, which wants to aim them at military targets inside Russia. Ukraine's offensive, along with a barrage of drones and missiles that Moscow launched this week, has intensified pressure on the Biden administration to ease its cautious approach to the use of Western weapons in escalating Ukrainian attacks.

The Biden administration says its careful deliberations, including which advanced weapons it supplies to Ukraine and when, are necessary to avoid provoking retaliation from Russian President Vladimir Putin. Some analysts agree Putin would take a Ukrainian strike by an American long-range ballistic missile within Russia as an attack by the U.S. itself.

» To get a boost, it wants less US caution on weapons

But many other American and European supporters of Ukraine say the White House should see that Putin's threats of attacking the West, including with nuclear weapons, are bluster. Their fear is the U.S. support that has allowed Ukraine to withstand Russia's 2022 invasion comes with delays and caveats that could ultimately contribute to its defeat.

"This war is going to end exactly how Western policymakers decide it will end," said Philip Breedlove, a retired U.S. general who led NATO in Europe from 2013 to 2016 and is among the retired U.S. military leaders and diplomats, Republican lawmakers, security analysts and others pushing for a loosening of restrictions on how Ukraine uses Western-provided weapons.

"If we keep doing what we're doing, Ukraine will eventually lose," Breedlove said. "Because right now ... we are purposely not giving Ukraine what they need to win."

Lifting such restrictions "would strengthen Ukrainian self-defense, save lives and reduce destruction in Ukraine," European Union foreign affairs chief Josep Borrell wrote Monday on the social platform X after Russia launched more than 200 missiles and drones at Ukraine. The next day, Russia launched 91 more.

The push and pull is playing out during Ukraine's surprise offensive into Russia's southern Kursk region, the first ground invasion of Russia since World War II.

Throughout the war, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has balanced copious thanks for U.S. support with frustrated appeals for more arms and ammunition.

Two sworn enemies hold key to ending the war in Gaza. Does either man want a deal?

The latest flurry of Gaza cease-fire talks—the back-and-forth over now-familiar sticking points and appeals from around the world—obscures a grim truth about the monthslong efforts to end the Israel-Hamas war and free scores of hostages.

Any deal requires the signatures of two men: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar.

They are sworn enemies, notoriously tough negotiators and know that the outcome of the talks will profoundly shape their legacies. In Sinwar's case, it could mean life or death.

Both have strong incentives to end the war. But they may also think they stand to gain by holding out a bit longer, and that war is preferable to a deal that falls short of their demands.

Here's a look at the two leaders and the constraints they face.

Netanyahu has promised "total victory" over Hamas and the return of all the hostages held in Gaza—goals that many believe are incompatible.

He has come under tremendous pressure from the hostages' families and much of the Israeli public to make a deal to bring them home, even if it leaves a battered Hamas intact. The United States, which has provided key military aid and diplomatic support to Israel, is also pushing for such a deal.

But Netanyahu's governing coalition relies on far-right ministers who want to permanently reoccupy Gaza and have threatened to bring down the government if he concedes too much. That would force early elections that could drive him from power at a time when he is on trial for corruption.

It would also hasten a broader reckoning over the security failures surrounding the Oct. 7 attack in which Hamas-led militants killed some 1,200 people in southern Israel, mostly civilians, and abducted around 250 others—on Netanyahu's watch. Netanyahu has rejected calls for a government investigation until the war is over.

The longer the war drags on, the more likely Israel is to achieve something that looks like victory—the killing of Sinwar, the rescue of more hostages—and the longer Netanyahu has to repair his political standing and reshape his legacy. But it also comes with risks as the number of soldiers killed in action rises nearly every day and Israel becomes increasingly isolated because of the suffering it has inflicted on Palestinians. ***(AP)***

Life & Style

Oasis reunites for tour, ending 15-year hiatus

LONDON (AP)—Oasis, the Britpop band known for timeless hits like "Wonderwall" and "Don't Look Back in Anger," is reuniting for a tour of the British Isles next summer, ending a 15-year hiatus and, presumably, the long-held feud between brothers Liam and Noel Gallagher.

The guitar band will play 14 dates in Wales, England, Scotland and Ireland next July and August, Oasis said on Tuesday.

"This is it. This is happening," the band said.

Oasis split in 2009 after many years of infighting, with Noel Gallagher officially leaving the band just before a performance at a festival near Paris. Even before the dissolution, the brothers had long had an antagonistic relationship and reportedly did not speak to each other for years after the breakup.

"People will write and say what they like, but I simply could not go on working with Liam a day longer," Noel Gallagher, the band's guitarist and songwriter, wrote in a statement at the time.

While the Gallagher brothers haven't performed together since, both regularly perform Oasis songs at their solo gigs. They've also each fired off criticisms of the other in the press.

Noel Gallagher accused his younger brother of having a hangover that forced them to cancel a 2009 concert. The frontman disputed the accusation and sued, later dropping the lawsuit.

But now the brothers are preparing to reunite, with the band saying fans would experience "the spark and intensity" that occurs only when they appear on stage together.

Tickets go on sale at 9 a.m. Saturday. A presale will be held on Friday. Attempts at registering for the presale ballot required users to name the band's original drummer.

The tour will begin July 4 and 5 at Principality Stadium in Cardiff, Wales. Oasis will also perform at Heaton Park in Manchester, England, on July 11, 12, 19 and 20; Wembley Stadium in London on July 25 and 26 and Aug. 2 and 3; Scottish Gas Murrayfield Stadium in Edinburgh on Aug. 8 and 9; and Croke Park in Dublin on Aug. 16 and 17.

There are plans for Oasis to perform in "other continents outside of Europe later next year," the official tour announcement read.

Representatives did not immediately respond to The Associated Press' requests for comment about future locations for the tour, as well as how the platform plans to handle demand for the shows.

AP

Liam Gallagher performs at the Reading Music Festival, England on Aug. 29, 2021, left, and Noel Gallagher performs at the Glastonbury Festival in Worthy Farm, Somerset, England, on June 25, 2022.

'ER' creator Michael Crichton's estate sues Warner Bros. over upcoming hospital drama 'The Pitt'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The estate of Michael Crichton, who wrote the screenplay for what became the pilot episode of "ER," has sued Warner Bros. Television over a dispute about an upcoming medical drama it says is a rebranded version of an unauthorized reboot.

Crichton

After Crichton's estate, led by his widow, Sherri, could not reach an agreement with the television studio to produce a reboot of the famed medical procedural, the lawsuit alleges Warner Bros. proceeded to develop and produce a series based on the same premise without consent.

The upcoming series, titled "The Pitt," will be a medical drama set in Pittsburgh, as opposed to "ER's" Chicago setting, and will feature Noah Wyle in a starring role. Wyle is best known for playing John Carter on "ER" in over 250 episodes.

"The Pitt" is also set to include several "ER" alums behind-the-scenes, including John Wells as the executive producer and R. Scott Gemmill as the showrunner. Wyle, Wells and Gemmill are each named defendants in the suit.

"The lawsuit filed by the Crichton Estate is baseless, as 'The Pitt' is a new and original show. Any suggestion otherwise is false, and Warner Bros. Television intends to vigorously defend against these meritless claims," the studio said in a statement.

Because of Crichton's success with projects including "Jurassic Park" and "Westworld" before "ER" was developed, he secured a coveted "frozen rights" provision in his contract for the series. The provision prohibits Warner Bros. from proceeding with any sequels, remakes, spinoffs or other productions derived from "ER" without Crichton's consent, or his estate's consent after his death from cancer in 2008.

"If Warner Bros. can do this to Michael Crichton, one of the industry's most successful and prolific creators who made the studio billions over the course of their partnership, no creator is safe," a spokesperson for Sherri Crichton said in a statement to The Associated Press. "While litigation is never the preferred course of action, contracts must be enforced, and Michael Crichton's legacy must be protected."

The estate, which filed the lawsuit Tuesday in Los Angeles Superior Court, is asking the judge to issue an injunction that would force the studio to stop production on the new series, and they are also seeking punitive and compensatory damages.

Judge says she suspects cover-up of true source of bail funds for man charged in Tupac killing

LAS VEGAS (AP)—A judge on Tuesday again rejected a request to free an ailing former Los Angeles-area gang leader ahead of his murder trial in the 1996 killing of hip-hop star Tupac Shakur, saying she suspects a cover-up related to the source of the funds for his bond.

The decision from Clark District Court Judge Carli Kierny came after an attorney for Duane "Keffe D" Davis said he would provide additional records to prove that the music record executive offering to underwrite Davis' $750,000 bail had obtained the money legally. But Kierny said she was skeptical after receiving two identical letters apparently from an entertainment company that Cash "Wack 100" Jones says wired him the funds as payment for his work.

One letter was signed with a name that has no ties to the company, the judge said, while the second letter included a misspelled name and a return address tied to a doctor's office.

"I have a sense that things are trying to be covered up," Kierny said.

The hearing took a turn when Davis' lawyer, Carl Arnold, told the judge that the bail bond agent used by Davis had provided the entertainment company with copy-and-paste instructions on the language for the letters and could therefore testify about their legitimacy.

In a scathing response, prosecutor Binu Palal said the bond dealer may have committed a felony crime by submitting "a false document to this court."

"The state takes that very seriously," he said. "Be advised that it will not go uninvestigated."

Both Palal and Arnold declined to comment further.

Davis has sought to be released since shortly after his September 2023 arrest, which made him the only person ever to be charged in one of hip-hop's most enduring mysteries. He has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder.

Husband can't be bothered to help with wife's needs

DEAR ABBY: I recently scheduled a last-minute consultation with my doctor that might result in surgery. My husband has a meeting during that time, which isn't actually necessary, but he feels he needs to attend. I feel he is choosing a non-urgent obligation over my more immediate concerns.

All that said, I am capable of handling what comes my way by myself. I was just hoping for some emotional support from my spouse of 31 years. I have had plenty of that financially, but not emotionally. I'm trying to figure out why he's not taking my medical issue as seriously as I am.

ON MY OWN IN WASHINGTON

DEAR O.M.O.: What a sad letter. After 31 years, you may have to accept that financial support is all your husband is capable of giving. Because you need emotional support, consider asking a close friend or relative to stay close while you resolve your medical issue. Although it may not be your first choice, it would be the more practical solution.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My father left my older sister and me out of his will. He inherited money, went to an Ivy League university and raised two sets of stepkids. I know he didn't have a lot left at the end, but what there was went to his third wife.

We had hoped he would help his granddaughters with cars, etc. I wish we had discussed it beforehand so it wouldn't have spoiled our larger-than-life memories of him. Are we selfish to feel let down?

STILL MISSING DAD IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR STILL MISSING: Your feelings are your feelings. If your father led you to believe your children were in his will, then those feelings are justified. However, if he DIDN'T do that, you are wrong to have expected him to buy "cars, etc." for your children. Considering his marital history, his widow may need every penny he left her.

■■■

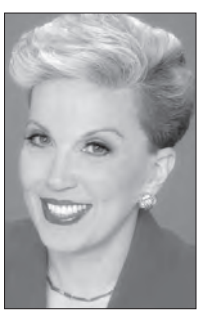
DEAR ABBY: I have a neighbor I truly love. I garden; she does not. Despite my asking her two years ago not to take any of my asparagus, yesterday she mentioned in conversation, "I love your asparagus. Sometimes I pick some for myself."

Abby, last year I was left with only enough for one meal for myself! How can I say to her, "Stop raiding my food source!"? I live on a limited budget. Many times, I can't afford to buy vegetables, which she is aware of. I'm very hurt by her behavior. Thank you for any insight you can give.

OUT OF THE GARDEN IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR ABBY

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR OUT: Sit your light-fingered neighbor down and remind her of some facts of your life. Tell her AGAIN that you are on a limited budget and grow vegetables because they have become too expensive for you to buy. Also remind her that you have asked her before not to do what she has been doing, and tell her how hurt you are that she would steal from you. It is the truth, and she needs to hear it. She should be ashamed of herself.

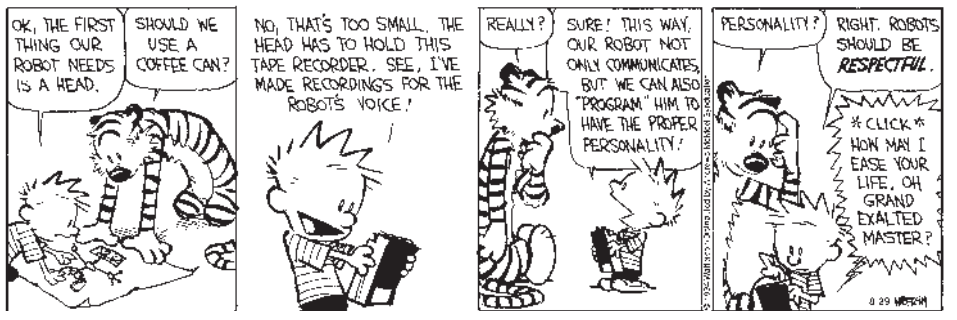
■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

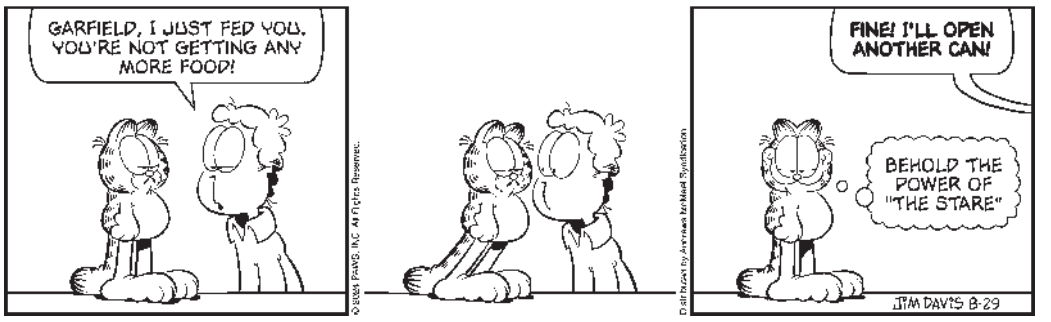
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


OK, THE FIRST THING OUR ROBOT NEEDS IS A HEAD.
SHOULD WE USE A COFFEE CAN?
NO, THAT'S TOO SMALL. THE HEAD HAS TO HOLD THIS TAPE RECORDER. SEE, I'VE MADE RECORDINGS FOR THE ROBOT'S VOICE.
REALLY?
SURE! THIS WAY, OUR ROBOT NOT ONLY COMMUNICATES, BUT WE CAN ALSO "PROGRAM" HIM TO HAVE THE PROPER PERSONALITY.
PERSONALITY?
RIGHT. ROBOTS SHOULD BE RESPECTFUL.
CLICK HOW MAY I EASE YOUR LIFE, OH GRAND EXALTED MASTER?

Garfield®

By Jim Davis


GARFIELD, I JUST FED YOU. YOU'RE NOT GETTING ANY MORE FOOD!
FINE! I'LL OPEN ANOTHER CAN!
BEHOLD THE POWER OF "THE STARE"
JIM DAVIS 8-29

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

CLAYTON'S NEW GRAPHIC NOVEL
TELL ME IF THE SPAGHETTI BOWL GIRL IS TOO GROSS.
K.
HOLD UP, GUYS!!
IS THAT ONE OF HER MEATBALL EYES THAT'S ROLLED OFF ON THE GROUND?
YEAH. IT LETS HER SEE THE WORLD FROM A BRAND-NEW PERSPECTIVE.
YOU, SON, ARE A VISIONARY.
HARRELL

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

TODAY I'M TEACHING MY STUDENTS THE IMPORTANCE OF HARD WORK, AND HOW LAZINESS CAN LEAD TO A LIFE OF FAILURE.
REALLY?
YEAH. I JUST NEED TO FIND SOME EXAMPLE TO DEMONSTRATE MY POINT.
SO, CAN YOU ASK ENO TO STOP BY MY CLASSROOM?
SURE, AFTER HIS AFTERNOON NAP.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Old money of Rome
5 Make an impression?
9 Wee bit
12 Big fusses
13 Croft of video games
14 Ostrich's kin
15 Where docs are trained
17 Pop
18 Home of St. Francis
19 Cheery tunes
21 Yes, to Juana
22 Puccini opera
24 Pride parade letters
27 Fella
28 Canadian gas brand
31 Observe
32 Actor Vigoda
33 Sean, to Yoko
34 Nitwit
36 Non-clerical
37 Alone
38 Popular apples
40 Roman 501
41 Lebanon's neighbor
43 Square one
47 Bubble —
48 Colorful salad veggie
51 Cash dispenser
52 Revise
53 Mystique
54 Cravat
55 Dresses in
56 Helen's home

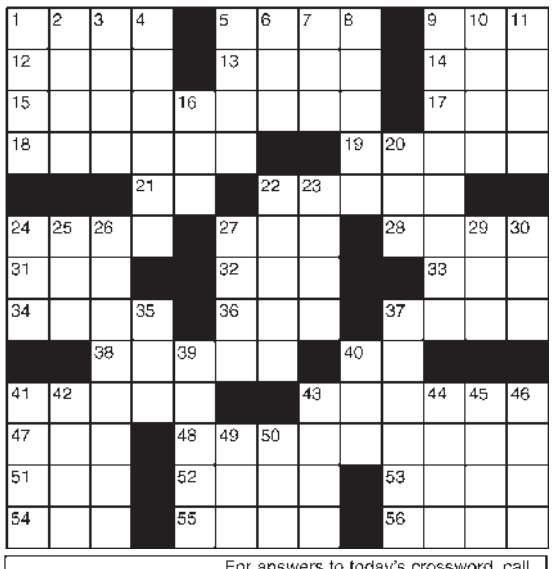
DOWN

1 Tibetan monk
2 Mid-month date
3 Scepters
4 Help
5 K thru 12
6 Eastern "way"
7 — -Magnon
8 Concert venues
9 Football coach on Apple TV+
10 Latin 101 word
11 Clothing
16 CBS forensic drama
20 "Rocks"
22 Big brass
23 Follow orders
24 Leary's drug
25 Earth (Pref.)
26 Mattress support
27 Island near Java
29 Scale member
30 Music's Yoko
35 French assent
37 Hold tight
39 Actor Leto
40 Payable
41 Doc's "Now!"
42 Bigfoot's cousin
43 Makes a choice
44 Incite
45 Architect Saarinen
46 Serving aid
49 Tokyo's historic name
50 Cacophony

Solution time: 24 mins.

B	R	A	S	■	L	A	D	■	T	S	P	S
B	O	L	T	■	U	M	A	■	A	Q	U	A
Q	U	I	C	T	C	A	R	■	P	U	R	R
S	T	E	A	M	Y	■	N	E	P	A	L	I
■	■	■	D	E	L	■	S	L	I	D	■	■
P	A	C	■	N	I	I	■	I	N	C	A	N
C	R	A	G	■	U	R	I	■	G	A	M	E
S	C	R	U	B	■	A	O	L	■	R	O	T
■	■	L	E	I	A	■	W	A	S	■	■	■
B	O	O	S	T	S	■	E	M	C	E	E	S
A	L	A	S	■	C	A	R	P	A	R	T	S
T	E	N	S	■	O	D	E	■	M	I	N	T
E	S	S	O	■	I	E	D	■	S	E	A	S

Yesterday's answer 8-29



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lauren Collins, 38; Lea Michele, 38; Carla Gugino, 53; Rebecca De Mornay, 65.

Happy Birthday: Plan your actions, use energy wisely and make the most of each day. Focus on friendships, making time for the people and pastimes you enjoy, expanding your circle of friends and taking better care of your health, wealth and emotional well-being. Learn from the past but let go of what's come and gone and move on to what motivates you. Live, love and laugh. Your numbers are 6, 13, 21, 27, 33, 35, 46.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Pay attention to how you present yourself physically and choose your words carefully. Knowing what triggers those around you will benefit you in getting what you want. Offer incentives or worthwhile suggestions. It's all about fitting in and making your input valuable. Live and let live. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Fix your surroundings to serve you better. Convenience can save you a bundle if you are thrifty and manage your life to suit your needs. A change in how you approach work and how you get along with your colleagues will impact your lifestyle. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Expand your mind and start conversations that help you learn something new to improve your life. Develop a better routine and work ethic to get better results. Life is about positive change and fulfillment. Distance yourself from those trying to take advantage of you. Focus on freedom. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Pay attention and speak and act in a heartfelt manner, and the response you receive will offer insight into whom to do business with and whom to avoid. Truth matters, and actions and words are relevant. Change begins with your choices and a circle of those who make you feel comfortable. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Inconsistency will work against you. Stay on track, follow through with your plans and have backup in place to help you avoid falling behind. Timing is essential in completing the test. Put your energy where it counts and connect with people who want the same results. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Invest in yourself, add to your qualifications and experience, and put your time and effort into making your dreams come true. Express your intentions, and the feedback you receive will help you determine your next move. Arguing will not help you advance, but a liberal mindset will. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* You'll need patience, discipline and stamina to achieve your goals. Approach every situation with an open mind and the intent to finish what you start. Don't waste time in turbulent conditions. Head in the direction that allows you to accomplish the most. Protect your health and reputation. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Explore the possibilities and take advantage of opportunities that interest you. Mixing business with pleasure will make your day more enjoyable and the outcome fruitful. Speak from the heart, and the response you receive will prompt you to do more. Make choices for the right reason and prosper. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Be direct regarding what you are willing to do before you commit to something. If you give them the chance, someone will misinterpret or take advantage of you. Put your time and effort into progressive action, leaving no room for criticism or default. Choose action over anger. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Take precautions, ask questions and withhold personal information. Protect against smooth operators trying to part you from your cash. Invest in your security and safety and do your research to prevent fraudulent dealings. Trust your instincts, hide your assets and savor your privacy and peace of mind. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Get out, socialize and join forces with those who want to be part of a solution, not the problem. Establish what matters to you and make lifestyle changes that define your place in the universe. Put your energy where it counts, do something worthwhile and enjoy the outcome. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Take a moment to organize your thoughts. Refuse to let anyone rush you into anything that may jeopardize a meaningful relationship or domestic environment. Consider what makes you happy and surround yourself with those who share your enthusiasm. Hone your skills and avoid temptation and excess. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are aggressive, curious and friendly. You are unpredictable and bold.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

8	2		5					
6	7			1		3	2	
				3	2		7	8
1		2				8		6
	9					2	4	3
		6			4			
	6	7				1	8	
4			8	9			3	
			2			7		

Difficulty: ★★★ 8/29

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

5	7	4	8	6	9	2	3	1
8	1	9	2	3	7	4	6	5
3	6	2	5	1	4	7	8	9
2	4	7	9	8	6	5	1	3
6	9	5	1	7	3	8	4	2
1	8	3	4	5	2	6	9	7
9	2	1	7	4	8	3	5	6
4	5	6	3	2	1	9	7	8
7	3	8	6	9	5	1	2	4

Difficulty: ★★★ 8/28

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

SHANNEN DOHERTY (1971-2024) **Solution: 6 letters**

H	A	R	A	S	Y	A	S	N	E	N	N	A	H	S
S	S	E	R	T	R	O	F	D	E	F	U	N	C	T
T	H	E	T	I	C	K	E	Ⓣ	Ⓢ	Ⓞ	Ⓗ	O	A	R
S	L	R	S	B	B	O	D	N	A	E	S	I	L	I
M	E	E	Y	N	A	H	T	E	B	L	S	S	I	K
L	Y	H	S	L	A	W	S	S	L	I	B	I	F	I
A	R	W	E	R	N	U	R	I	H	F	D	V	O	N
P	E	O	L	H	O	E	H	P	M	I	K	E	R	G
G	A	N	O	H	G	Y	M	A	R	L	C	L	N	P
N	L	J	R	A	L	E	G	E	E	M	I	E	I	O
I	L	U	Y	R	M	N	C	N	K	U	R	T	A	S
N	O	O	E	O	U	T	E	N	N	E	S	S	E	E
R	V	V	D	M	O	D	M	A	L	L	R	A	T	S
U	E	E	P	R	O	S	A	I	R	W	O	L	F	A
B	L	I	N	D	F	O	L	D	E	M	R	A	H	C

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Airwolf, Ashley, Bethany, Beverly Hills, Blindfold, Burning Palms, California, Charmed, Defunct, Director, Dobbs, Film, Fortress, Host, John, Kurt, Magnum P.I., Mallrats, Memphis, Model, Nowhere, Our House, Real Love, Rick, Roles, Rosa, Sarah, Sean, Shannen Says, Striking Poses, Television, Tennessee, The Ticket, Voyagers, Walsh

Yesterday's Answer: Vintage

For **WONDERWORD** apps, books & more, visit Wonderword.com, or call 1-855-232-2367.

Duran's 20th homer help Red Sox stop skid with win over Blue Jays

BOSTON (AP)—Jarren Duran led off with a homer, Masataka Yoshida added a two-run single in a three-run first inning, and the Boston Red Sox ended a four-game losing streak with a 6-3 win over the Toronto Blue Jays on Tuesday night.

David Hamilton, Triston Casas and Wilyer Abreu also drove in runs for Boston, which had not won since beating Houston last Wednesday.

Boston also ended the Blue Jays' five-game winning streak. Toronto has still won 10 of its last 15, placing the team on the verge of climbing from the bottom of the AL East standings with one month left to play.

Will Wagner hit his first career homer for Toronto and Daulton Varsho hit a solo shot in the ninth.

Duran hit his 20th homer of the season, driving an 0-1 fastball from Yariel Rodríguez to right. Boston added three more in the fifth when Hamilton hit an RBI single, Casas drove in a run with a double and Abreu added an RBI single.

AP

Boston Red Sox outfielder Wilyer Abreu leaps but can't make the catch on a solo home run by Toronto Blue Jays' Will Wagner during the sixth inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park, Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2024, in Boston.

CUBS 9, PIRATES 5

PITTSBURGH (AP)—Seiya Suzuki and Dansby Swanson homered during Chicago's five-run fourth inning, and the Cubs beat Pittsburgh on Tuesday night to move over .500 for the first time since May 28.

Suzuki hit a tying two-run drive for his 19th homer this season, connecting on a fastball from rookie right-hander Jared Jones (5-7).

Isaac Paredes then walked and scored on Nico Hoerner's double. Following a mound visit, the 23-year-old Jones threw a fastball down the middle to Swanson, who connected for his 12th homer one night after he hit a grand slam in Chicago's 18-8 victory.

Swanson, who also walked twice, then walked to the edge of the team's dugout to wish his mom, Nancy — sitting in the front row—a happy birthday.

The Cubs (67-66) have won five of six. They are 28-18 since falling nine games below .500 on July 3.

NATIONALS 4, YANKEES 2

WASHINGTON (AP)—Dylan Crews got the first two hits of his career and Andrés Chaparro and José Tena hit back-to-back homers on a banner night for Washington's rookies as the Nationals ambushed Gerrit Cole and the New York Yankees.

Aaron Judge doubled in the first inning but remained stuck on 51 homers for the AL-best Yankees. He came up with the bases loaded and no outs in the eighth against reliever Jacob Barnes but grounded into a double play on a 3-1 pitch to score New York's first run. After hitting two longballs Sunday against Colorado, Judge is 2 for 7 with two walks in two games at Washington.

ATHLATICS 5, REDS 4

CINCINNATI (AP)—Max Schuemann and Lawrence Butler each hit a two-run homer in the seventh inning to propel Oakland past Cincinnati.

Zack Gelof added a solo shot in the eighth and All-Star closer Mason Miller hung on after giving up two runs and four hits in a shaky ninth. With runners at second and third, he struck out pinch-hitter Amed Rosario for his 22nd save.

Oakland had one hit and trailed 1-0 through six innings, but rallied to hand Cincinnati its ninth straight loss against interleague opponents.

A's starter Mitch Spence allowed a run and five hits in 5 1/3 innings. He walked three and struck out three.

Michel Otañez (1-0) got two outs in the sixth for his first major league win.

PHILLIES 5, ASTROS 0

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Aaron Nola tossed four-hit ball over seven shutout innings and Nick Castellanos hit a three-run homer to lead Philadelphia over Houston.

The Phillies may have put their summer malaise behind them over the last two weeks, winning the last two games of a series in Kansas City and the first two games of a three-game set against Houston. The Phillies have won eight of 13 games overall and maintained their healthy lead in the NL East—six games ahead of Atlanta, entering Tuesday—and are again playing like the team that opened as one of the best teams in baseball into the All-Star break.

PADRES 7, CARDINALS 5

ST. LOUIS (AP)—Jake Cronenworth hit a tiebreaking RBI single in San Diego's two-run seventh inning, and the Padres beat St. Louis for their third consecutive win.

Manny Machado homered for San Diego, and Luis Arraez had three hits. Yuki Matsui (4-2) pitched an inning for the win, and Tanner Scott handled the ninth for his 20th save in 22 chances.

Padres right-hander Dylan Cease threw 96 pitches in 4 1/3 innings on a night when the gametime temperature was announced at 98 degrees. He was charged with four runs and seven hits.

Paul Goldschmidt homered for St. Louis in its third loss in four games. Miles Mikolas permitted four runs and six hits in 5 2/3 innings.

BRAVES 8, TWINS 6, 10 INNINGS

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Matt Olson drove in the go-ahead run on a fielder's choice, Travis d'Arnaud added an RBI single and Ramón Laureano put the game away with a two-run double as Atlanta scored four times in the 10th inning to beat Minnesota.

Olson's grounder to second scored the automatic runner as second baseman Edouard Julien's throw home wasn't in time. D'Arnaud and Laureano followed with one-out hits as Atlanta rallied against Minnesota closer Jhoan Duran (6-8).

Duran allowed four runs—three earned—and four hits.

The Braves, who led 4-0 before the Twins rallied late, won for the eighth time in 10 games. They trail Philadelphia by 6 games in the National League East and hold the final wild-card spot in the East by 3 1/2 games over the New York Mets.

ROYALS 6, GUARDIANS 1

CLEVELAND (AP)—Paul DeJong hit a two-run homer and Kansas City caught Cleveland atop the AL Central by beating the Guardians in a game delayed more than two hours by rain.

The Royals, who lost 106 games last season, improved to a league-best 23-13 since the All-Star break, when they trailed the Guardians by seven games.

Cleveland had been sitting alone in first in the division since April 14 before dropping the first three games in this series, which concludes with a matinee Wednesday. The Guardians have lost nine of 12 and are just 17-21 since the break.

DeJong connected in the second inning off Gavin Williams (2-7), and the Royals tacked on three runs in the seventh off Scott Barlow on RBI singles by Maikel Garcia and Michael Massey, to go along with a wild pitch.

GIANTS 5, BREWERS 4

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Mike Yastrzemski hit a two-run homer in the seventh inning to put San Francisco ahead for good in a victory over Milwaukee.

Matt Chapman went 3 for 4 with a homer and Grant McCray also went deep for the Giants. Thairo Estrada nearly homered as well, but Milwaukee's Blake Perkins reached his gloved arm over the center-field wall to catch the Giants second baseman's leadoff drive in the fifth inning.

The Giants trailed 4-3 before Chapman opened the seventh with a single off Joel Payamps (3-6), who had been unscored upon in his last 11 appearances. Yastrzemski followed with a drive over the wall in right-center.

MARLINS 9, ROCKIES 8

DENVER (AP)—Jesús Sánchez hit a three-run homer to cap a five-run rally in the ninth inning that gave Miami an improbable comeback victory against Colorado.

In a matchup between the National League's two worst teams, the Marlins trailed 6-0 early and were down by four entering the ninth. But they got a two-run double from Jake Burger before Sánchez followed with his 17th homer.

It was the largest deficit Miami has overcome this season, besting the five-run hole it climbed out of in an April 30 win, which also came against the Rockies.

Kyle Stowers hit his second home run and first triple of the season for Miami. Griffin Conine, the son of longtime Marlins outfielder Jeff Conine, had his first two career hits, a triple and a double, one day after making his major league debut.

George Soriano (1-1) earned the win by pitching a scoreless eighth. Angel Chivili (1-2) took the loss and was handed his second blown save of the season after giving up Sánchez's home run.

TIGERS 6, ANGELS 2

DETROIT (AP)—Riley Greene and Kerry Carpenter homered in a three-run sixth inning and Detroit extended their winning streak to five games with a victory over the Los Angeles Angels.

The Angels, last place in the AL West at 54-78, have lost six straight and 12 of their last 14 games.

The start of the game was delayed 2 hours, 45 minutes by heavy storms and the first pitch wasn't thrown until 9:45 p.m. But the Tigers didn't have any trouble with the late start.

Brant Hurter (2-1) picked up his second MLB win in his first start, allowing two runs on four hits in five innings. Jason Foley got the final out for his 18th save.

RAYS 3, MARINERS 2

SEATTLE (AP) — Jose Siri hit a go-ahead two-run homer, Jeffrey Springs pitched five scoreless innings, and Tampa Bay beat Seattle.

Manuel Rodríguez allowed a two-out single beforing striking out pinch hitter Luke Raley for his second save of the season as the Rays returned to .500 at 66-66 for the 32nd time this season, which leads the major leagues.

Siri's seventh-inning homer came on a 0-2 count with two outs. He hit a slider from JT Chargois (2-1) over the center field wall. Of Siri's 17 home runs this season, five have been tying or go-ahead hits.

After starter Logan Gilbert gave Seattle six innings of excellence, the Rays took advantage of the Mariners' bullpen with Siri's homer and Yandy Díaz's solo blast in the eighth inning.

METS 8, DIAMONDBACKS 3

PHOENIX (AP)—Sean Manaea matched a season high with 11 strikeouts, Pete Alonso hit a solo homer and the New York Mets won to stop Arizona's winning streak at six games.

Manaea (10-5) allowed just one hit until the seventh inning, when Lourdes Gurriel Jr. and Corbin Carroll homered. The left-hander gave up three runs and four hits over 6 2/3 innings, pitching into the seventh for the fifth time in six starts.

The Mets broke open the game in the fifth, sending 12 batters to the plate and scoring six runs for an 8-0 lead. Jeff McNeil started the inning with a double and Francisco Alvarez brought him home with an RBI single, ending an 0-for-17 skid.

ORIOLES 3, DODGERS 2

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ramón Urías hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in the fifth inning, Ryan O'Hearn also went deep and Baltimore beat the Los Angeles Dodgers in their interleague series opener.

In the eighth, Mookie Betts singled and stole second, but Teoscar Hernández struck out swinging against Yennier Cano and Will Smith took a called third strike to end the inning.

The Dodgers managed just three hits over the final six innings and didn't advance a runner past second after the third.

Urías' second homer in two games landed in the Dodgers' bullpen in left field, scoring Jackson Holliday, who singled, and restoring the Orioles' lead.

Matt Bowman (1-0) got the win with 1 2/3 innings of relief. Seranthony Domínguez pitched the ninth to earn his seventh save.

Osaka gets her first Top 10 win in more than four years

NEW YORK (AP)—A year ago, still on maternity leave and still unsure when she would play elite tennis again, Naomi Osaka visited the U.S. Open to appear with Michael Phelps for a discussion about mental health. While at the site, she sat in the stands to watch one of Coco Gauff's matches.

Osaka also already was thinking about being back on a court at Flushing Meadows, so much so that she was pondering what she might want to wear to compete. And there she was Tuesday at Louis Armstrong Stadium, overpowering No. 10 seed Jelena Ostapenko 6-3, 6-2 while decked out, from her visor to her dress to the bows on her back and attached to her shoes, in lime green—the color of this "Brat " summer, as it happens (IYKYK)—and playing very much like a two-time champion at the place and a former No. 1-ranked star.

AP

Naomi Osaka, of Japan, warms up before playing against Jelena Ostapenko, of Latvia, during the first round of the U.S. Open tennis championships, Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2024, in New York.

"I feel like being able to be a part of (designing) my tennis outfits gives me, I would say, a different strength, especially the U.S. Open outfits. I feel like they are a little bit more flamboyant. When I was putting on my outfit today, I was, like, 'Ah, I hope this isn't too much,'" Osaka said with a smile. "Because I had the tutu, and then I had the bow jacket and it was green. I feel like everyone was staring at me."

Another player asked for a photo, Osaka said, adding: "I hope it was a positive picture (and) it wasn't, like, 'Oh, my God, look at her.' For me, when I put on the outfit, it's almost like a super suit, so I try to channel that."

Did that well enough Tuesday to register her first victory against a top-10 opponent in more than four years.

Osaka claimed titles in New York in 2018 and 2020, along with a pair of trophies at the Australian Open in 2019 and 2021, and her matchup against 2017 French Open champion Ostapenko marked the first time two past major champs faced off in the opening round at the U.S. Open since Serena Williams defeated Maria Sharapova five years ago. Another such contest came Tuesday night, when 2020 Australian Open champion Sofia Kenin beat 2021 U.S. Open winner Emma Raducanu 6-1, 3-6, 6-4.

"Having two wins here means a lot, and I think for me, I've been struggling with confidence throughout the year," said Osaka, who returned to action at the Australian Open in January, her first Grand Slam appearance in nearly 1 1/2 years because of mental health breaks and time away to have a baby. "This time now forces me to look in the mirror and say, 'Hey, you've done really well here. There's no reason why you can't do well again.'"

How's this for doing well? Osaka did not make a single unforced error in the first set and finished with only five, 16 fewer than Ostapenko.

"I do remember thinking, 'I need to win this match so I can wear my other color.' That was very important to me," said Osaka, who is ranked 88th and received a wild-card invitation from the U.S. Tennis Association. "I guess you'll see my other color next time."

Next time will be Thursday against 2023 French Open runner-up Karolina Muchova, a 6-3, 7-5 winner against Katie Volynets of the U.S.

Other women moving into the second round included No. 1 Iga Swiatek, who got past Kamilla Rakhimova 6-4, 7-6 (6) by taking the last five points after needing to erase a trio of set points because she trailed 6-3 in the tiebreaker, and past major champions Elena Rybakina and Caroline Wozniacki. No. 5 Jasmine Paolini, a finalist at the French Open and Wimbledon this year, beat 2019 U.S. Open champion Bianca Andreescu 6-7 (5), 6-2, 6-4, while No. 11 Danielle Collins' Grand Slam singles career ended with a 1-6, 7-5, 6-4 loss to Caroline Dolehide in an all-American matchup. The 30-year-old Collins is retiring after this season.

Another American who recently announced her retirement, Shelby Rogers, lost the final match of her career by a 6-4, 6-3 score to No. 6 Jessica Pegula at night, after four-time major champion Carlos Alcaraz defeated qualifier Li Tu 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, 6-1 in Arthur Ashe Stadium. Pegula meets Kenin next.

Earlier in Ashe, No. 1 Jannik Sinner played his first match since news came out that he was cleared in a doping case involving two failed tests in March, and while he got off to a slow start, the 23-year-old Italian quickly bounced back to eliminate Mackie McDonald 2-6, 6-2, 6-1, 6-2.

Other seeded men advancing included No. 5 Daniil Medvedev, No. 7 Hubert Hurkacz and No. 25 Jack Draper, but No. 11 Stefanos Tsitsipas and No. 19 Felix Auger-Aliassime both lost, as did No. 23 Karen Khachanov, who came out on the wrong end of the longest U.S. Open match, by time, since tiebreakers were instituted in 1970.

Dan Evans snuck past Khachanov 6-7 (6), 7-6 (2), 7-6 (4), 4-6, 6-4 across 5 hours, 35 minutes. The final set, in which Evans trailed 4-0, took 61 minutes itself—and was the shortest set they played.

"When you're a kid, you're just told to fight until the end. I mean, that's sort of Rule 1. I've done that pretty consistently for my career," Evans said. "It sort of paid off a bit today."

Sinner starts poorly at the US Open but wins his first match since his steroids case emerged

NEW YORK (AP)—If there were any boos directed Jannik Sinner's way at the U.S. Open, they were imperceptible amid the polite applause from the sparse crowd at Arthur Ashe Stadium when he was introduced Tuesday before the No. 1-ranked man's first match since his doping case emerged a week ago.

After a sloppy and slow opening set, Sinner pulled away for a 2-6, 6-2, 6-1, 6-2 victory against Mackie McDonald of the United States to reach the second round at Flushing Meadows.

"The response from fans, I feel it has been great. Also throughout, when the news came out, in the practice sessions, there was a lot of support, which I'm very glad and happy about," Sinner said. "It is still a little bit not easy. You have to go through, day by day."

There were no apparent signs in the stands or disparaging shouts making reference to what no one knew about for months: Sinner tested positive twice for trace amounts of the anabolic steroid Clostebol in an eight-day span in March.

Nothing was announced publicly until last week, when word came that the 23-year-old Italian was docked prize money and ranking points from the tournament where the first result appeared, but he escaped a suspension because it was ruled he was not at fault and the drug entered his system unintentionally, through a massage from his physiotherapist.

In his first public comments on the matter, at a pre-tournament news conference Friday, Sinner said he had fired the fitness trainer who bought an over-the-counter spray containing Clostebol in Italy and the physiotherapist who used it for a cut on his finger before treating the player and transferring the substance to his body.

AP

Jannik Sinner, of Italy, reacts after scoring a point against Mackenzie McDonald, of the United States, during the first round of the U.S. Open tennis championships, Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2024, in New York.

During a brief on-court interview in Ashe, Sinner wasn't asked about the case, which has drawn some criticism from other players, including Novak Djokovic, about the way it was handled and questions about whether certain athletes are treated differently than others when it comes to the process for determining punishments related to doping.

"I cannot really control what they think and what they (say). I cannot control the players' reaction," Sinner said. "If I have something to say to someone, I go there privately, because I'm this kind of person. But, look, overall, it has been not bad. So I'm happy about that."

Against McDonald, an American ranked 140th who fell to 4-13 in 2024, Sinner was way off the mark at the outset. He double-faulted. He put what should have been an easy smash into the net. He messed up volleys. It added up to 14 unforced errors in the initial set, helping McDonald grab five games in a row from 2-all to collect that set and go up a break in the second.

"I made him see a lot of balls. I served really well, too. I was defending super well," said McDonald, who beat Rafael Nadal at the 2023 Australian Open. "My level just decreased, which is disappointing. I feel like I can play some really good tennis, which I did for a little bit. But to do that for a long time against a guy like that was too tough for me."

Sinner turned things around quickly in the second set, making just 15 unforced errors combined over the last three sets, including zero in the third, and next will face another American, Alex Michelsen.

The way Sinner picked up his play is what everyone is used to seeing from him, particularly on hard courts like those used in New York. He improved to 29-2 on the surface this season with four titles, including his first Grand Slam trophy at the Australian Open in January.

"He just constantly pressures you," McDonald said. "The ball is coming back so fast, over and over and over."

Pickleball pro Daniel Moore making 3rd trip to Saipan

The Pickleball Federation of the Northern Mariana Islands announced that nine-time pickleball national champion

Daniel Moore will be conducting two clinics on Sept. 7. The morning and afternoon clinics are three hours long and the fee is $120.

After playing collegiate tennis at Azusa Pacific University, Moore started pickleball in 2013 when his father introduced him to the sport, saying "this is your only chance to become a national champion at something."

Moore co-founded and manages Pickleball Trips, a company taking pickleball players to world-class destinations around the world. He introduced the sport to Japan eight years ago, where there are currently around 300 players. He is an IPTPA certified instructor and teaches in locations such as the United States, Japan, China, Spain, France, and Mexico.

Moore lives and works in Japan, where he runs Nagano Ventures, a custom travel business, and works as a tour leader for Walk Japan. He enjoys snowboarding and hiking in Japan's many mountains, as well as introducing pickleball to players around Japan.

Moore was born in Atlanta and moved to Japan with his family when he was 7. He has lived in Colorado Springs, Los Angeles, and Nairobi, Kenya. He is now living once again in Ueda, Japan, where he is trying to grow the country's interest in pickleball.

Moore got involved with the game after his father, Scott, invited him to play. "My dad was playing, so when I was home, he got me out on the court," he said.

In 2014, in their first match together, they beat the defending national champions at the Tournament of Champions. They played well together but decided that in 2015 they should split up to play with others their own age.

"He [Scott] will say that I fired him after nationals, but really we mutually agreed that it would be better to play with other people," said Daniel.

By splitting up, the two found even more tournament success. Scott accomplished a trifecta at the two premier tournaments, first sweeping the legends doubles, mixed doubles and singles at the Tournament of Champions, and then repeating the feat at the USAPA Nationals VII, held in Casa Grande, Arizona, in November 2015. By the end of the year, he had earned 20 gold and five silver medals, including several in the open singles and doubles categories.

Daniel won both the 19+ age and open singles divisions at the 2014 USAPA nationals. In 2015, he double dipped at the Tournament of Champions, winning the masters singles and also teaming with Matt Staub to win doubles as well. Then, at the USAPA Nationals Tournament, he won gold in the men's 19+ singles division and men's open doubles, partnering with Matthew Blom, and earned silver in the open singles, establishing him as the top overall player in the game.

Both men say they appreciate the mental and physical aspects of the game.

"It is a general equalizer. Speed and power are not as big of a factor as most sports, and therefore a person in his or her 50s can potentially compete with those in their 20s," said Scott, who also enjoys golf, snowboarding, and tennis. "It can be physically challenging, but it is also extremely intellectually engaging, as you have to be very patient and calculating, almost like a chess game, to think ahead and set up your points in order to gain the advantage."

Daniel, who was once an avid tennis player, agrees. "When you get to the higher levels, it requires so much patience and thinking," he says. "You can't just attack. You have to bide your time, set up the point and pounce when the time is right."

Scott, a self-described "serial entrepreneur" who resides in Colorado Springs, is a sponsored professional for Paddletek paddles and Babolat shoes, as well as an exclusive master distributor for Paddletek. Daniel is an international distributor for Paddletek.

Both father and son are world travelers—Scott has traveled to more than 60 countries and is fluent in Japanese and conversant in Spanish.

"It's a great sport and you meet people you never would have otherwise," said Daniel. "It's a great way to get back into competition without all of the training and intensity that a sport like tennis requires. It's an easy, fun way to get exercise and meet people."

The Moores have played all over the world and have presented clinics in half of the states in the U.S. as well as Spain, Portugal, Japan, and Mexico.

"It is easy to find someone to play with, is extremely inexpensive, and can be played in almost any city you visit," says Scott. "We are traveling the world playing pickleball, making new friends, and are attempting to make pickleball not only the fastest-growing sport in America, but also in the world."

Daniel currently is ranked as the 11th top doubles player in the world, with a DUPR rating higher than 6.6.

For more information on the Sept. 7 pickleball clinics, contact PFNMI president Nelson Krum at (670) 789-8201 or any of the board of directors if you wish to reserve a spot for this dynamite learning chance. ***(PR)***

MARK RABAGO

Nine-time pickleball national champion Daniel Moore held his last clinic on Saipan in March 2023.

SOFTBALL

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Field are set for tomorrow, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Sep. 1, with the championship rounds, a closing ceremony, and a banquet with live music after.

Meanwhile, the women's games will be on Saturday and Sunday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Pangelinan Softball Field adjacent behind the Tan Ko field.

The 10 men's teams include 4KUNI, Bat-titude, Blue Jays, Team Luta (Rota), Parre' Pack, Pound Town, Skoba, Sons of San Jose (Tinian), Mamaww, and Titang.

The four women's teams are BDE, Boujee-Rebels, Lady Sufa, and Sliding Dirty.

Tony Salas, committee member of the tourney, invites the public to watch and cheer on the teams. "Hafa Adai & Tirow CNMI, please join us as we celebrate our 1st CNMI Labor Day Softball Tournament held in Saipan. Come celebrate this beautiful gathering with us."

The sponsors of the tournament include Rep Malcom Omar (Ind-Saipan); MARPAC and Guy Pudney; Senate President Edith DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan); Taste Town (Laurese Kileleman Mettao); John Oliver Gonzales; Kimberlyn King-Hinds; Saipan Mayor's Office; Vinnie Sablan; Saipan Shipping Co.; Juan Santiago; Melissa Litulimar and company; Cathy Salas and company; Rep. Jonthan "BJ" Attao (Ind-Saipan); Rep Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan); Rep John Paul Sablan (Ind-Saipan); Rep Manny Gregory Castro (Ind-Saipan); Rep. Diego Camacho (Ind-Saipan); House Speaker Edmund Villagomez (Ind-Saipan); Rep. Patrick San Nicolas (R-Saipan); Rep. Angelo Camacho (Ind-Saipan); Juan and Lucy Aldan; Rep. Marissa Flores (Ind-Saipan); Rep. Denita Yangetmai (D-Saipan); Rep Joel Camacho (Ind-Saipan); Stormy Salas; Tracy Del Rosario, and Rose Del Rosario.

CASEY

From page 16

Mini Games in Koror, Palau. "Definitely gonna train harder for that!" said Cruz.

Coach Elias Rangamar added that they traveled more than 30 hours to get to Peru, then Cruz competed the very next day. "She mentioned that it was hard to stay warm. Peru is pretty cold this time of the year. At this point of her career, she just needs to learn how to manage training, school, and her lifestyle. She still wants to pursue an athletics career at some college in the U.S.," said Rangamar on Cruz.

"This event has the best youth talents around the world. Unfortunately, there were only two representatives from the Pacific Islands other than Australia and New Zealand," he said. After the competition, Rangamar said they slept all day and night. "I think the jet lag and excitement finally caught up with us."

Cruz is returning home with Rangamar on Sep. 1, which allows them ample time to do some sightseeing before then.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	78	55	.586	–
Baltimore	77	56	.579	1
Boston	68	64	.515	9½
Tampa Bay	66	66	.500	11½
Toronto	65	69	.485	13½
Central Division				
Cleveland	75	58	.564	–
Kansas City	75	58	.564	–
Minnesota	72	60	.545	2½
Detroit	67	66	.504	8
Chicago	31	101	.235	43½
West Division				
Houston	70	62	.530	–
Seattle	67	66	.504	3½
Texas	60	71	.458	9½
Oakland	57	75	.432	13
Los Angeles	54	78	.409	16

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	78	54	.591	–
Atlanta	72	60	.545	6
New York	69	63	.523	9
Washington	60	73	.451	18½
Miami	48	84	.364	30
Central Division				
Milwaukee	75	56	.573	–
Chicago	67	66	.504	9
St. Louis	65	67	.492	10½
Cincinnati	63	69	.477	12½
Pittsburgh	62	70	.470	13½
West Division				
Los Angeles	78	54	.591	–
Arizona	75	57	.568	3
San Diego	76	58	.567	3
San Francisco	67	66	.504	11½
Colorado	49	84	.368	29½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Duran's 20th homer help Red Sox stop skid with win over Blue Jays

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Sports

Pickleball pro Daniel Moore making 3rd trip to Saipan

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Casey Cruz wraps up 1st int'l competition

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

The NMI's up-and-coming sprinter Casey Cruz wrapped up her first international competition last Tuesday in Lima, Peru.

She competed in the 100m sprints of the World Athletics U20 Championships 2024 against other young and up-and-coming sprinters from all over the world including the U.S.A., Jamaica, Germany, Poland, Canada, Spain, Bahamas, Monaco, and more.

The 18-year-old finished eighth out of nine in Heat 3, with a time of 13.59 seconds. She was over a minute shy of her personal best time of 12.63 seconds that she set in the 10th Micronesian Games in Majuro, Marshall Islands last June.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
NMI sprinter Casey Cruz, right, poses with coach Elias Rangamar at the track and field stadium in Lima, Peru during the World Athletics U20 Championships 2024.

Even with that, she said, "this is my first international competition on the world stage and I think I did good. [It's] not the results I wanted, but it's only up from here," said the Saipan Southern High School class of 2024 graduate.

She added, "I am just so grateful and bless[ed] that I got to represent the NMI in the World Athletics U20 Championships in Lima, Peru."

When asked what the difference was in competing in Peru from the Pacific Games and the Micronesian Games, she said it was the weather.

"The main difference between competing here in Lima and at the Pacific/Micro Games is the climate. In the Solomon Islands and Marshall Islands, the warm weather allowed my body to stay comfortably warm before my race. However, here in Lima, the cooler temperatures make it quite challenging for me to maintain that warmth prior to competing," she said.

What's next? She said she's looking forward to the 2025 Pacific

See CASEY on Page 15

Cruz cruises to Round 8 win

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Aric Cruz in action in the Intermediate Class of Round 8 of the 2024 "MOTO IV" Points Race Series last Sunday at the Cowtown Race Park.

By MARK RABAGO
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EDITOR

Aric Cruz finished the season with a bang after topping anew the Intermediate Class of Round 8 of the 2024 "MOTO IV" Points Race Series last Sunday at the Cowtown Race Park.

The 17-year-old recent intern at Herman's Modern Bakery won both heats for a perfect 50 points. Vicente Palacios wound up second with 44 points, while Ethan Yumul was third with 40 points.

MRA MARIANAS RACING ASSOCIATION

"The track was a fun dry and tacky course. To me it was about having fun but after I crashed in the first heat going to the third lap, I decided to race like I had nothing to lose. I would like to give all the thanks to the Lord up above for giving me the courage to not give up and I would like to dedicate this win to my parents for always standing by my side in all of the hardest times," said Cruz after his Round 8 victory aboard his trusty 2024 Yamaha Yz250f.

He also extended his thanks to Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan) for the tents, "as it was a crazy hot day" and Guy Pudney of MARPAC "for the refreshments to keep us hydrated."

Other sponsors Cruz sent his gratitude to include Inas Kitchen, YCO Hardware, 670 Rocksteady Shop, TurnKey Solutions, DC Pro Rentals, and the Ericco Racing Team.

Results of the other classes will be published in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.

CNMI Labor Day softball tournament starts today

LEIGH GASES
Pare Pack's Jose Lizama in action during a game in the 2024 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association Men's Slow Pitch Open League at the Dandan Softball Field.

By LEIGH GASES
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REPORTER

The Inaugural CNMI Labor Day Softball Tournament 2024 kicks off today, Aug. 29, at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.

At 5:30pm today, there will be a coaches meeting, then an opening ceremony at 6pm, with the first game of the tourney to follow.

The men's games at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball

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